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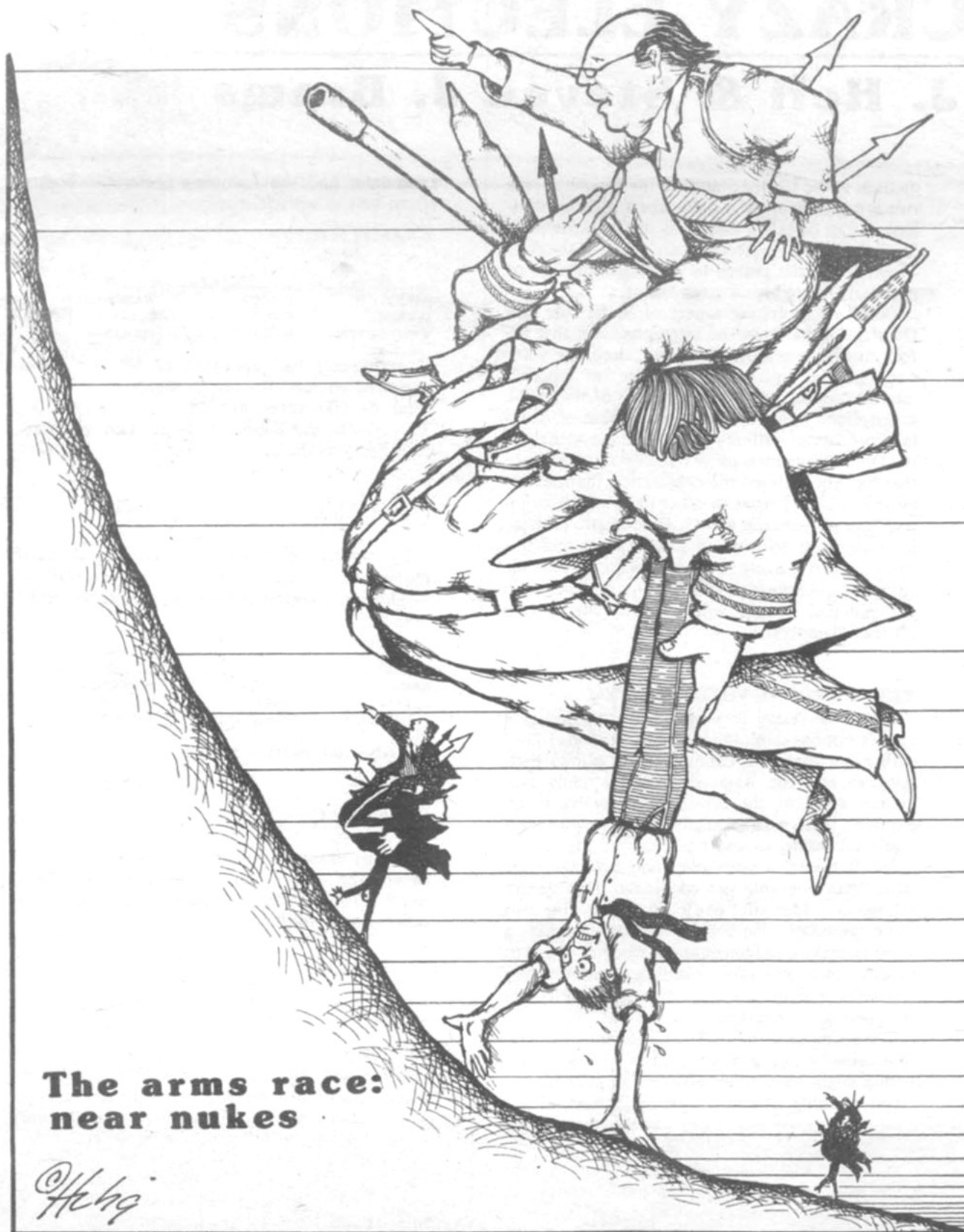
# The DC Gazette

Whole Number 220  
VOL XIII NR 5

May 1982

*Reforming DC's crazy elections:*

## A new way to vote



**The arms race:  
near nukes**

**Children  
of the  
recession**

**Our pick  
for  
council  
chair**

**The  
problem  
with  
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Barry  
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**Our horse  
thinks  
big about  
history**







# APPROVAL VOTING: HOW TO IMPROVE DC'S CRAZY ELECTIONS

Barbara J. Heil & Steven J. Brams

The growing estrangement of the American public from its political system is evidenced by the 20-year decline in voter participation. This decline has been attributed in part to disenchantment and cynicism with nonrepresentative choices in large, multi-candidate elections with minority, not majority, support. Such elections have produced some recent alarming failures of government due, in large measure, to candidates' winning with insufficient support to achieve a post-election consensus among the various parts of the constituency.

The great virtue of democracy is regular elections: when one is dissatisfied with an elected official, it is usually only a matter of time until the next election remedies the situation, if others are similarly disposed. Unfortunately, citizens of the District of Columbia are not guaranteed another election. Self-government in the District exists under a different premise from that in other juris-

dictions in the United States. In the District, home rule is a privilege, not a right; like any other privilege, it can be taken away—as it has in the past. Until that privilege becomes a right, it is the duty of every District citizen to protect the future of popularly elected local government.

Despite this unique aspect of home rule, the District suffers from the same problems that affect American politics elsewhere: declining voter participation, increasing leverage of special-interest groups, the growing impact of the media and opinion polls, and the trivialization of issues in a protracted primary campaign. Nevertheless, the D.C. Democratic party remains a potent force that has not suffered the debilitation that has occurred in both parties in other parts of the country. Indeed, winning a D.C. Democratic primary is tantamount to winning the election, and this situation is not likely to change in the foreseeable future. Consequently, the impetus for change in the political system will have to come from District Democrats.

## THE APPROVAL VOTING SYSTEM

Approval voting is a system that increases a voter's options in multi-candidate elections (those with more than two candidates). It allows each voter to vote for, or approve of, as many candidates as he or she considers acceptable in an election. Thus, a voter might choose to vote for a single candidate, as under plurality voting, or for more than one; a voter may not, however, cast more than one vote per candidate. This system changes the idea of "one person, one vote" to "one candidate, one vote." That is, it permits a voter to make a judgment about whether or not to support each and every candidate, without any restriction on how many candidates the voter can designate as acceptable.

The example of the 1978 D.C. Democratic mayoral primary can be used to show how approval voting might have either affirmed or changed the actual outcome. The results of that primary were:

BARRY—35%    TUCKER—33%    WASHINGTON—32%

What is not shown are the voters's complete preferences. Using 100 as the total number of voters, assume the supporters of each of the three

candidates had the following preference orders (from best to worst):

### EXAMPLE A

35	33	32
BARRY	TUCKER	WASHINGTON
TUCKER	BARRY	BARRY
WASHINGTON	WASHINGTON	TUCKER

If each voter had approved of his *two* most-preferred choices, the results would have been a total of 200 votes divided thus: Barry—100; Tucker—68; and Washington—32. This would affirm Barry as the actual winner.

### EXAMPLE B

By simply reversing the second and third preferences of the Washington voters, Tucker would have emerged as the most acceptable candidate:

35	33	32
BARRY	TUCKER	WASHINGTON
TUCKER	BARRY	TUCKER
WASHINGTON	WASHINGTON	BARRY

Tucker—100; Barry—68; Washington—32.

### EXAMPLE C

In this example, assume there is a runoff between the first- and second-place finishers under plurality voting, where voter preference orders are as follows:

35	33	32
BARRY	TUCKER	WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON	WASHINGTON	TUCKER
TUCKER	BARRY	BARRY

Now Barry and Tucker would have made the runoff, but the most acceptable candidate, Washington (if all voters had found the top two candidates acceptable) would not. Thus the addition of a runoff under plurality voting does not necessarily elect the most acceptable candidate. Moreover, the runoff is both costly and tends to lead to reduced voter participation, as lower turnout in many runoff elections has demonstrated.

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## THE ADVANTAGES OF APPROVAL VOTING

1. *It respects the majoritarian principle in democratic elections.* By making it difficult for candidates who command the support of only a minority of the electorate to win when there is another candidate preferred to the minority candidate, approval voting enhances the idea of majority rule. Unhappily, there have been enough instances, in recent decades, of minority candidates winning elections and thereby flouting the will of the majority, to undermine the credibility of the electoral process. In any election in which the number of significant candidates is large, the election of a candidate without the support of a majority of voters is almost inevitable.

2. *It gives voters more flexible options.* They can do everything they can under the present system—vote for a single favorite—but if they have no strong preference for just one candidate, they can express this fact by voting for all candidates they find acceptable. For instance, if a voter most preferred a candidate who had little chance of winning, that voter could vote for both a first choice and a more viable candidate without worrying about “wasting” his or her vote on the less popular candidate.

3. *It elects the strongest candidate.* Today, the candidate supported by the largest minority wins, or at least makes a runoff. Under approval voting, by contrast, it would be the candidate with the greatest overall support—the one most approved of—who would win. An additional benefit is that approval voting would induce candidates to try to mirror the views of the majority of voters, not just cater to special interests whose votes could give them a slight edge in a crowded plurality contest, the kind of contest in which a candidate with only 20% to 30% of the vote can win. The fact that Jimmy Carter won the 1976 Democratic primary in New Hampshire with only 28% of the vote, and Henry Jackson won the Democratic primary in Massachusetts one week later with only 23% of the vote, says nothing about how acceptable either candidate was to the approximately three-quarters of the electorate in each primary who did *not* vote for them.

4. *It strengthens political parties.* Approval voting would make it much more difficult for candidates who did not command majority support within their respective parties to win the nomination. It would thus tend to result in the nomination of the strongest and most viable candidates, thereby restoring credibility to the candidate selection process traditionally performed by political parties. The credibility of that process has been seriously undermined by the perception that it can be artfully manipulated by candidates who command support of only a minority of the party.

5. *It gives minority candidates their proper due.* In a typical three-way contest including one candidate from each of the two major parties and an independent or third-party candidate, support for the non-major party candidate often fades as election days approaches because many of his or her

supporters think that their candidate has no serious chance of winning. Although positions taken on issues by the third-party candidate may enjoy widespread support in the electorate, the result of the election often substantially underrepresents the magnitude of this support. With approval voting, minority candidates and their positions would receive more appropriate recognition, because voters could support them—along with their preferred major-party candidate—without “wasting” their votes, even though one of the major-party candidates would generally win.

6. *It enhances citizen participation.* Voters would not be forced to make an arbitrary choice if they favored more than one candidate. Nor would they be compelled, as under the present system, to “waste” their votes if they preferred a non-major party candidate and also found one of the two major-party candidates acceptable. And since the political parties would be encouraged to nominate the strongest and most viable candidates, voters would be present with more plausible choices. All these reasons are cited by non-voters as factors keeping them from the polls. It seems reasonable to assume that as perceived reasons for not voting are overcome—particularly the restriction of voting for exactly one candidate—more voters will participate in elections.

7. *It is eminently feasible.* It may be thought that, even given the virtues of approval voting, it would make little difference in a real election, since candidates would encourage voters to vote for just themselves (bullet voting) to keep down the vote totals of their opponents. Yet, such an appeal would probably be ineffective, particularly in a crowded race in which voters had difficulty distinguishing their single favorite. In an approval voting experiment involving several hundred Pennsylvania voters before their 1976 primaries, 72% of the voters voted for two or more of the eight candidates listed on their sample ballots. A similar percentage would have voted for additional candidates in New Jersey gubernatorial primaries in June 1981, as shown in an exit poll of 2,600 voters in that election.

Approval voting can be easily implemented with existing voting machines and would not greatly complicate tallying paper ballots where they are still in use. In the District, approval voting in the Democratic primaries can be enacted by the endorsement of the D.C. Democratic State Committee.

## COMPARISONS WITH OTHER VOTING SYSTEMS

The growing and vocal dissatisfaction with plurality voting in the District has encouraged the promotion of various types of voting systems, or the addition of a runoff election to the present plurality system. An examination of some of these systems will be useful in highlighting the advantages of approval voting for the District.

## PLURALITY VOTING AND PLURALITY-WITH-A-RUNOFF

It is a sad fact that, under the present system of plurality voting, elections are often rigged against majority candidates. One can think of numerous examples throughout the country in which three or more candidates in a plurality contest divided the total vote in such a way that no candidate received a majority. For example, in the 1980 U.S. Senate race in New York, Alphonse D'Amato (Republican and Conservative) defeated Elizabeth Holtzman (Democrat) 45% to 44%. Also in that contest was incumbent Jacob Javits (Liberal). An exit poll taken by ABC showed that 44% of Javits' supporters would have supported Ms. Holtzman had he not been in the race, whereas only 22% would have supported D'Amato. If Javits had not been in the

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JOB OPENING: Center for Science in the Public Interest, a national DC organization working on health and nutrition issues, is seeking a bright, aggressive director for its project on alcohol problems and the alcoholic beverage industry. The project will develop measures to curb and prevent alcohol-related illnesses, accidents, and deaths and to counter the efforts of alcoholic beverage producers. Applicants should have experience in dealing with media, Congress and regulatory agencies. Skills in investigative research, issue advocacy, and directing a national project are also important. Applicants should have several years of experience directing a project of similar scope. Salary is dependent on experience. Benefits include health/life insurance and standard leave policies. Send resume, writing sample and other supporting material to CSPI, Personnel-AP, 1755 S Street NW, Washington DC 20009.



contest, Holtzman would have defeated D'Amato by 65,200 votes. (The importance of this particular election became clear when the newly-elected Senator D'Amato was selected to chair the Senate Subcommittee on the District of Columbia).

James Buckley was elected a United States Senator from New York in 1970 with only 39% of the vote. Buckley, a conservative, was probably no more representative of New York State voters than John Lindsay, a liberal, was representative of New York City voters when he was reelected to a second term as Mayor of New York in 1969 with 42% of the vote. The 61% majority that voted for Buckley's two opponents, and the 58% majority that voted for Lindsay's two opponents, were effectively denied representation, at least in terms of their apparent ideological preferences, for six and four years, respectively.

In the 1977 New York City mayoral election, six candidates received between 10% and 20% of the vote in the Democratic primary. This contest was followed by a runoff between the two top vote-getters, Edward Koch (19.8%) and Mario Cuomo (18.6%), which Koch won. The runoff, however, offered no assurance that one of the other four candidates in the 10% to 18% range could not have beaten Koch. Koch may well have been the strongest candidate in the Democratic field, but the plurality election, even followed by a runoff, did not offer incontrovertible evidence that indeed he was.

In the Buckley and Lindsay elections, if either candidate had been in a head-to-head contest with just one of his opponents, he would have almost surely lost to him. Because there indeed was another candidate that a majority would have actually preferred, the election system in each case worked perniciously.

The paradoxical result of a weaker candidate beating a stronger candidate in an election occurs when two or more moderate candidates split the centrist vote, allowing a more extremist candidate to eke out a victory with the support of only a minority. The most common attempt to "repair" this defect in plurality voting is to add a runoff election between the top two vote-getters in a plurality vote. Plurality-with-a-runoff offers a slight improvement in some instances, but it also introduces a strange phenomenon. In the next example, 29 voters have the following preference orders:

#### EXAMPLE D

10	9	8	2
A	C	B	B
B	A	C	A
C	B	A	C

The runoff would be between A and B, each having received 10 votes in the plurality contest, and A would then beat B by 19 to 10 (C's supporters preferring A). Suppose, however, that the last two voters changed their minds in the initial contest and decided that they liked A better than B (see circled preference change):

10	9	8	2
A	C	B	A
B	A	C	B
C	B	A	C

The resulting runoff would be between A (with 12 votes) and C (with 9 votes), and C would beat A by 17 to 12 (B's 8 voters would support C). Paradoxically, the two voters who changed their preference in favor of A caused A to lose! This seems both unfair and undemocratic. Thus, adding a runoff is not a satisfactory remedy for finding the majority candidate, and the cost of implementation makes it untenable.

#### PREFERENTIAL RANKING SYSTEMS AND ELIMINATION SCHEMES

An election reform, called the *Hare System*, that had been used in a few places in the United States (for example, Cambridge, Massachusetts) shares many of the advantages of approval voting. If no candidate receives a majority of first-place votes, the candidate with the fewest first-place votes is dropped and the second-place votes of his

supporters are given to the remaining candidates. The elimination process continues, with lower-place votes of the voters whose preferred candidates are eliminated being transferred to the candidates that survive, until one candidate receives a majority of votes. (This system is also used in Australia and the Republic of Ireland, among other places, where it is known as the single-transferable vote system).

Apart from the practical problems of implementing a ranking system, the Hare system has a major drawback: it may eliminate the candidate most acceptable to the voters. In hypothetical example C, Washington would have been eliminated at the outset. Yet, in that example, Washington would have beaten both Barry and Tucker in separate two-way contests, and was, therefore, the strongest candidate. Moreover, he would have won with approval voting. A less serious drawback of preferential voting is that the candidate with the most first-place votes originally may be displaced after the transfers have been made to determine the majority winner. This may greatly upset that candidate's supporters (particularly if they are a large minority) and lead to questions about the legitimacy of the system. This challenge cannot be mounted against approval voting since approval votes are indistinguishable—whether these votes are first-place, second-place, or whatever, is not recorded, so no portion of the winner's total can be judged "inferior."

Another ranking system is known as *Coombs Elimination*, which eliminates the candidate with the most last-place votes. Assume voter preferences are as follows:

#### EXAMPLE E

25	20	10	10
A	C	C	B
B	B	A	A
C	A	B	C

In this example, C would be eliminated at the outset, but would also receive the most first-place votes. This result would not seem to be any more palatable than the previous example in which Washington was eliminated at the outset.

A voting system that uses points as weighting factors is known as the *Borda System*. In its most common version, if there are three candidates, a first-place vote would receive 2 points, a second-place vote would receive 1 point, and a third-, or last-, place vote would receive 0 points. For example:

	30 voters	20 voters	Borda points
2 pts.	A	B	A: 60
1 pt.	B	C	B: 70
0 pts.	C	A	C: 20

In this instance, the Borda system fails spectacularly because it does not select the first choice of the majority of voters, A. Certainly A's supporters would call into question the legitimacy of this system, and because they are the majority this could cause severe problems in governing successfully.

A final problem with ranking schemes is the problem of voter education. Where these systems have been used in the United States, as in New York City school board elections where the Hare system has been tried, the results take several days to tabulate, and voter participation has been exceedingly low (4% in the last school board elections). In the District, which has a short history of elections, the difficulty in explaining this system to an already cynical electorate would be immense. Approval voting, on the other hand, is based on an extremely simple idea and would be a system relatively easy to implement, with results that can be efficiently tabulated.

#### CONCLUSION

Advocacy of approval voting is not an indictment of either past or present elected officials in the District; it is merely a simple step that can be taken by the D.C. Democratic party to ensure a more certain majority winner. The assumption can easily be made that such a winner would begin

his or her term of office with not only the good will of the citizenry but also with the public's knowledge that no other candidate was more acceptable.

Approval voting, in itself, would not fundamentally change the formal relationship between Congress and the District; it would, however, serve notice to the Congress that District residents care enough about their local government to take steps to improve it. With a mayor and city council elected by the clear preference of the electorate, certain members of Congress conceivably would be less inclined to second-guess the desires of the community than they are today. On the other hand, with a more representative government, local residents may become less predisposed to bypass the District government and directly petition sympathetic congressmembers on what are essentially local matters.

Approval voting may well become the election reform of the 20th century, just as the Australian, or secret, ballot, printed by the government with the names of all authorized candidates, was the election reform of the 19th century. It is being seriously considered in several states, including New York, New Hampshire, and Vermont (where a bill has already been introduced in the state legislature). Could not the District benefit from pioneering the adoption of this fair and practical reform?

STEVEN J. BRAMS is professor of politics at New York University. He is the author of *Game Theory and Politics* (1975), *Paradoxes in Politics* (1976), *The Presidential Election Game* (1978), *Biblical Games* (1980), and a forthcoming book with Peter C. Fishburn, *Approval Voting*.

BARBARA J. HEIL is on the staff of Science magazine and was formerly Treasurer of the D.C. Young Democrats, the Chair of the Women's Caucus of the Young Democrats of America, and the Corresponding Secretary of Ward One Democrats. She also served on the staff of Del. Fauntroy and was a member of the D.C. Democratic State Committee.



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\* \* \*

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FREE MEN, a non-profit educational organization exploring the male role, is forming men's consciousness-raising and support groups. In these groups, men discuss relationships, sexuality, work, stress, and other important issues in their lives. If interested, call FREE MEN at 543-2332.





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The freeze

I am troubled by two aspects of the current debate on nuclear weapons. One is the huge gulf which separates those who take or encourage symbolic stands from those who have to work out realizable solutions. The other is the use of symbols as moral clubs to beat the opposition, the recourse to emotional blackmail. Both aspects arise from considering the symbolic as distinct from the substantive dimensions of nuclear policy as paramount. This tendency is not unique to the nuclear weapons debate, a fact which contributes to the general deterioration of political discourse.

The fault lies on both sides of the political spectrum, in this case. Both the advocates of "superiority" and of the nuclear freeze are making broad gestures which are essentially empty of substance. Nuclear superiority is meaningful only in a very narrow sense, one which ignores the enormous risks attendant on nuclear coercion in a world of nuclear superpowers. If it exists, moreover, it is likely to be only transitory; neither the United States nor the Soviet Union is likely to live for long under the threat of nuclear coercion without taking steps to offset the other's advantage. The quest for superiority is a formula for an open-ended arms race. So nuclear superiority, as a goal, does not ensure what its supporters implicitly or explicitly promise: enhanced national security. Yet the only conceivable substantive advantage of nuclear superiority would be enhanced national security.

If so, why not freeze? For one, because the freeze advocates have no program. What *does* one do with aging or obsolescent weapons systems, for instance, a question which cannot be avoided, and one which leads directly to calculations, judgments and decisions which are antithetical to the spirit of the freeze. More fundamentally, the freeze advocates are ducking important questions about the functions of our nuclear forces and the current condition of the nuclear balance. Instead of thinking about these hard questions—questions which address the basic assumptions of international relations and imply complex choices—the freeze advocates have simply allied themselves with, and played upon, the universal fear of nuclear war. Of course no one wants to live on Ground Zero. But the freeze is not going to remove anyone from Soviet target lists. Indeed, if the concepts of deterrence have any reality and if there are problems today with the balance—as many experts argue—a freeze could reduce security.

Besides the emptiness of their proposals, the pro-freezers and the advocates of nuclear superiority have something else in common. They are both enemies of arms control, a process which is deeply concerned with the substance of the nuclear balance not only as it stands today but as it will stand a decade from now. Arms control seeks a balance which preserves deterrence, and must eschew superiority. Arms control must be deeply concerned with the functions of our nuclear forces, with calculations of the current and future balances, and with complex decisions, all swept aside by freezers.

Some politicians argue that it is useful to generate mass appeals based on simple symbols which touch everyone's basic emotions, even when the emotion is naked fear. The drive for a freeze, in this view, spurs the President and Congress to accelerate their efforts to calm international tensions and negotiate new arms control agreements. Even if the objective is a good one, I disagree with the tactic. To advocate the freeze publicly while privately holding a different agenda seems to be a cynical manipulation of fears which the tactician has no intention of assuaging.

Fear of nuclear war is the essence of deterrence. The freeze is a hoax on its millions of petitioners,

because it will not solve the problem of mutual vulnerability. Nor will the quest for nuclear superiority.

These sad facts do not deter the more ardent supporters of the freeze from tagging their opponents with the warmonger label, or the advocates of nuclear superiority from accusing their opponents of weakness. Although both are loathsome tricks, I find the former more poisonous. Implicitly and sometimes explicitly, the argument says that if you are not against nuclear weapons (and in favor of the freeze, or unilateral disarmament) you are in favor of mass murder. No middle ground allowed. Just go over there and sit with Hitler on the dung heap of history.

Such absolutism mocks the moral dilemmas of international relations. It is not irrelevant that untold millions have died in this century alone from non-nuclear bombs, artillery shells, bullets, bayonets and poison chemicals because nations or factions have insisted on their political right to conduct war against other nations or annihilate undesirables at home. Banishing nuclear weapons will

not abolish the dilemmas arising from such claims. On the other hand, the possibility cannot be excluded that nuclear weapons have helped to avert another general war—that nuclear deterrence may work. The choice between disarmament and mass murder is a false dichotomy. To argue this choice is to engage in blackmail against one's opponents.

In this respect the nuclear debate begins to resemble the debate over abortion, in which the right to life movement has seized the moral high ground by labeling its opponents as advocates of murder. Both the anti-nuke crowd and the anti-abortion crowd would legislate utopia, thereby relieving the world of the moral dilemmas and painful choices which have been its lot since Adam delved and Eve span. Either they are not of this world, or they are damned hypocrites.

ANDREW HAMILTON  
Kalorama, DC

## CITY TALK



### Next time you visit us. . .

*From David McReynolds, who is on the staff of the War Resisters League and was the 1982 Socialist candidate for president:*

Of course I was in Washington March 28th, as I feel I have been in Washington for every major demonstration in more than twenty years. I was there in the early "Prayer Pilgrimages" of the civil rights movement in the late 1950's, when Martin Luther King Jr. was still a young preacher, one leader among many, and it was possible to stand close by and take photographs of him leaving the platform, almost shy and appearing trapped by the role history had given him.

I was there in the early 1960's in the snow storm of February when we had what was—for those days—a mass student demonstration of 8,000 folks calling for a nuclear test ban. (I was serving as a young general of the peace forces, holed up in a church near the White House helping coordinate our forces, when one of our people ran in and announced that Kennedy had sent out a butler to the White House picket line, to offer them coffee and donuts. "What," I was asked, "should we do?

Should we say no?" I said they should accept, on two counts, the first being common courtesy, and secondly, they should have some sense of the political meaning of what Kennedy had done. Presidents do not send coffee and donuts to picketeers at the White House, not even to those with a fair sprinkling of Harvard undergraduates. What Kennedy was doing, I felt, was sending a message not too different from the Chinese fortune cookie which, when opened, had a slop that read, "Help Me, I'm Trapped In A Chinese Fortune Cookie Factory." Kennedy was signaling that he was trapped by the military and would appreciate larger demonstrations, not fewer or smaller ones.

It was a great day in 1963, in August, to be in Washington with part of a quarter of a million people, the shops closed and the city fearful of a race riot, knowing Kennedy had tried to persuade the civil rights movement not to gather. But gather it did, black and white together in one of the last great displays of racial unity, the crowds chanting "Freedom, Freedom! FREEDOM!" as they surged toward the final rallying point where King spoke of his dream.

And back to your city all during Vietnam, lapping like some tide that crested higher each time, until the time nearly a half million Americans came. Nixon insisted he hadn't noticed, that his eyes had been on the football game on TV. 1971, the year of the Maydays, when about 15,000 of us were arrested in three days and tear gas wafted through Georgetown, helicopters buzzed in angry military formation around the capital, and Nixon placed the city under virtual martial law.

All those times were memories I value, not because I enjoy demonstrations, but because they were necessary and it was the citizen's job to take part—and as a staff worker at War Resisters League it was in a direct sense my job. My job to help with organizing the actions, my job to help draft the calls, the leaflets, the propaganda, and my job to stand in the crowd handing out the leaflets I'd written. Like some second rate who has played every small town in America and knows he will never play Broadway, I should love just once to be a featured speaker, but with time one learns

to value one's job for what it is, and know even small parts help make the whole. In twenty years I've missed a major demonstration only if I was traveling elsewhere in the country or abroad. And so of course I was there March 27 with the tens of thousands to join in denouncing the Reagan policy on El Salvador.

Oh it was cold! My God it was cold! What happened to your cherry blossoms, which I had thought would be out? One thing I have to say about Washington weather, as an old demonstrator, is that it is not predictable. When the Maydays came in 1971 I had assumed Washington would be warm, even hot. I had come down with only light short sleeved shirts and a sports jacket—and damn near froze to death. My co-workers, Ralph DiGia and Grace Paley, who were arrested the first day, really did suffer from lack of blankets that night until the National Guard took pity, defied then-Attorney General Mitchell's orders, and threw blankets into the fenced off area where the first day's thousands had been herded.

It was cold in March of 1980, also, when I came down for the anti-draft rally. I had just been nominated by the Socialist Party as their presidential candidate and Sister Diane, my running mate, had come in from Milwaukee to be with me. The two of us looked silly, we not only had no bodyguards, we had virtually no following at all—and as I think back I'm not positive if we even had any campaign leaflets yet. Mainly we had freezing cold fingers. And ears. And noses. And toes. March 22, 1980, is a day that will live in memory as even colder than the time in 1979 when a group of us were arrested at the gates of the White House and the one thing which had worried me was that the Park Service might just let us sit in front of the White House gates and freeze, with snow floating down around us. Rick Hertzberg, who was then Carter's speech writer, and had been supposed to get us in and avoid an arrest situation, stood on the sidelines, just past the cops, and looked helpless. Thank God the police arrested us before we froze to death.

## GAZETTE ENDORSEMENTS

**For City Council Chair: DAVID CLARKE**  
**For City Council At-Large: HILDA MASON**

Dave Clarke has taken a certain amount of grief for his off-again, on-again approach to the chairmanship race. In "City Talk" this month you can read what he said when he dropped out and what he said when he came back in. Some thought Clarke overdrew the racial aspects of the current campaign. I don't think so, I think he was being quite realistic. And if you don't believe it, just check with the white delegates to the statehood convention who have been subjected to a kind of mindless, childish race-baiting that would have been discouraging even in the 1960s. Today, with the politics of separatism near bankruptcy, it is not only discouraging, it's masochistic. Anyway, most of those worth mau-mauing have been ruffed and are doing little more offensive than looking for a job.

It is important to note that those blacks who see politics in demonological terms are in a clear minority. Clarke found in Ward Four, for example, that less than a quarter of the voters would not vote for a white. Neither Clarke nor anyone else with intelligence would suggest that racial prejudice was the dominant theme of black political thought. But in political terms, finding twenty percent of an electorate unwilling to vote for you under any circumstance is reason for pause.

And pause Dave did. His judgement, which will be clear from reading his statement (rather than, say, what Richard Cohen said about it), was a political one and, from pragmatic point of view, a sound one. Hell, I told him as much some months back, as I'm sure many others, both black and white, did. My feeling was that it was better to have Dave Clarke just a simple councilmember than not to have Dave Clarke at all.

Others saw it differently and, obviously appealing to the not inconsiderable idealistic side of his nature, convinced him to forget the data and take up the fight anyway. Clarke will undoubtedly be accused of being indecisive. I think that's a lot of rot. What Clarke did was to fleet up from a political judgement to a moral one. That it is was a difficult decision and caused him considerable doubt is certainly the case. But only a fool or a political cynic would be devoid of such doubts. Further, Clarke -- as his fashion, made his doubts and his decision openly, revealing a person who, while more vulnerable than most politicians, takes his responsibilities more seriously than most politicians.

If I had been in his shoes, I'd have probably stuck with the political judgement. But since he's irrevocably decided to jump into the fray, that question is moot. And whatever his chances, Clarke certainly deserves to be chair.

Clarke has been an outstanding member of the council. When Clarke takes up an issue he goes into it with thoroughness, rationality and sense of equity. Further, he is politically effective. When Dave talks, people listen. His intelligence combined with his sense of fairness make him extremely well suited for the job.

If elected, he would replace an incumbent who has been rampantly uninspired. There is not much awful that Arrington

Dixon has done; on the other hand there is not much important that he has done either. He has, for the most part, simply occupied the post. He would, in fact, make an ideal candidate for vice president of the United States. He doesn't cause any trouble. In many ways, however, the council chairmanship is a more important position -- and far too important to hold merely by virtue of squatter's rights. While Arrington Dixon has been an improvement over his predecessor, this is his prime virtue. Compared to Clarke, however, there simply is no comparison. Clarke is brighter, more imaginative, more progressive (Dixon has the second most pro-Board of Trade record on the council), more capable and has a more comprehensive grasp of almost any issue that comes up. If you're feeling glum or apathetic about the mayor's race, you can give yourself a lift by throwing some enthusiasm into Dave Clarke's campaign for the council chair. You'll thank yourself for it.

§

The at-large race is still largely at-large. If Betty Ann Kane doesn't slip back into it, the contest looks like it will be dominated by Johnny Barnes and Barbara Simmons, the former we know too little about and the latter too much. Put one seat on the back burner for a while.

Fortunately, the home rule charter leaves a couple of wild-card spots on the council that cannot be filled by the majority party. Hilda Mason is running again for the one that's up this year. Hilda, as Gazette readers hardly need to be reminded, has served with extreme integrity, concern and ability. She has been made something of a pariah, of course, for demonstrating such atypical qualities and, as such, has been often isolated on the council. She does, however, serve as a sort of political conscience of the city and I like to imagine that other politicians think twice before launching at least some cynical missiles out of discomfort at the thought of having to explain it to Hilda Mason. In any case, Hilda deserves the most enthusiastic support for her re-election.

§

You will note that the endorsements above say nothing about the mayor's race. While it is clear that the two best choices are Marion Barry and Betty Ann Kane (see last month's issue), it is also clear that good and wise people in this town differ rather strongly as to which is best. It has been suggested by several parties to this dispute that the Gazette exercise its First Amendment right to keep its damn mouth shut for a while longer. Given the fact that this will dramatically reduce the number of angry people I must talk to, I have accepted the suggestion with alacrity. As it says here in Proverbs XVII, "Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding."

--SAM SMITH



However...these are tiny memories. They do not measure against the terror of young men going into battle in Vietnam, against an enemy they do not know, for reasons they do not understand. The chill and cold and arrests and weariness of bus rides are nothing, nothing to the violence Reagan's men inflicted by proxy, by dictators they have bought, by guns they have caused to be sent, by the hungers they permit.

I know the bus stops between New York and Washington City. The crowds I see at each demonstration are now like a city of old friends, a smallish city where I know at least half the people, where I have spoken on their campus ten years before, or twenty. People I have been arrested with. And people who have suffered much, much more than I. March 27 I saw Nelson Blackstock, who I had originally met in 1963 in Georgia while on a speaking tour, and who, I understand, I had helped win to radicalism. He could not live with

## FREEZE TEXT

*Except for legal references, here is the full text of the DC nuclear freeze initiative. Only a brief summary will appear on the ballot.*

To declare District of Columbia public policy supporting a mutual United States-Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze, redirection of resources to job creation and human needs, and avoidance of nuclear war; and to implement that policy.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,** That this act may be cited as the "Nuclear Weapons Freeze Act of 1982."

**Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** In the interest of preventing nuclear war, reversing the economic impact of weapons spending, and safeguarding District of Columbia residents, and recognizing that civil defense cannot provide protection from nuclear destruction, it is by the Electors declared the public policy of the District of Columbia to support:

(1) a mutual United States-Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze as a first step towards arms reduction;

(2) redirection of resources to job creation and human needs; and

(3) avoidance of nuclear war, not futile preparation to withstand nuclear attack.

**Sec. 3. Establishment of Advisory Board.** The Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall appoint an uncompensated Nuclear Weapons Freeze Advisory Board of not less than three and not more than seven residents of the District of Columbia. Board members shall be appointed to two-year terms. The Board shall continue in existence until the Mayor determines that the objectives of the policy declared in §2 have been fully attained.

**Sec. 4. Advisory Board Duties.** The Board shall:

(1) identify District of Columbia agency activities pertaining to nuclear war and prepare a report to the Mayor concerning actions that should be taken by such District of Columbia agencies to implement the policy declared in §2; and

(2) prepare information concerning:

- (a) the nuclear weapons build-up;
- (b) the foreseeable effects of a nuclear attack on the District of Columbia;
- (c) the feasibility of civil defense against nuclear attack; and
- (d) the implications of a policy supporting:
  - (i) a mutual United States-Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze as a first step toward arms reduction;
  - (ii) redirection of resources to job creation and human needs; and
  - (iii) avoidance of nuclear war, not preparation to withstand nuclear attack.

**Sec. 5. Proposal to Congress and the Executive.** Within thirty days of the effective date of this act, the Mayor shall propose to Congress, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the President the immediate negotiation with the Soviet Union of a permanent, mutual freeze on the testing, production, and further deployment of all nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.

the pacifist position I taught, and moved on to the teachings of Leon Trotsky and the Socialist Workers Party—and now walks with a cane, the result of a severe beating received while doing work for the SWP in the South. His politics are not mine, but his courage far exceeds mine, and he is one of the heroes of America who have risked much and given much.

It is your turn now, Let me invite you all to New York. Washington, which has suffered so often the hordes of us all from every state, which lived through the parades, and the tear gas, the arrests: bring it all to us in New York.

Let me, if I may, as an old organizer who has many times been generously received by your city—by *our* city, for Washington is a city which uniquely belongs to all Americans (as it still is uniquely denied the right of belonging to itself)—as one who has enjoyed the courtesy of your police, the comfort of your jails, and occasionally and all too briefly a glance at the grandeur of your parks and museums, let me ask you to visit my city, Manhattan.

For if Washington belongs to America, Manhattan, as the seat of the United Nations, belongs to the world. On June 7 the United Nations will open a Special Session on Disarmament. On June 12th it is my belief we may see one of the largest demonstrations in American history as we join with people from many countries (including 1300 Japanese who are flying in for the occasion) in demanding the great nuclear powers get off their vast backsides and edge their way toward disarmament. Many are demanding a freeze, and that would be a very good beginning. But many of us are demanding much more. We want serious and major cuts in military spending. We want an end to any tests of nuclear weapons, and not only by this country but by the Soviet Union, by China, and by France—whose tests risk the lives of the Pacific Islanders. We want the traffic in conven-

## How Dave Clarke made up his mind

*Last month David Clark announced that he would not be a candidate for city council chair. His reasoning, which we found pragmatic and cogent, appears below. After issuing this statement, however, Clarke was importuned to change his mind, which he did, for reasons also appearing below:*

### I WON'T RUN

I will not be a candidate for Chairman of the Council in 1982. All of my effort has led me to believe that the issues pertaining to the chairmanship, which I believe to be real, would be so obscured by other factors that it would be difficult for me to present a visible alternative and for the people to make a real choice. I have usually tried to be forthright and candid about public matters, and, accordingly, I will set forth my reasons for this conclusion.

First, a campaign for chair will be lost in the city-wide attention given to the mayoral race and the neighborhood attention given to various ward races. When I began looking at the possibility of the chairmanship, the incumbent, as was his right, was looking at other possibilities for himself. His decision to seek to retain his seat made my decision one of whether to seek to unseat an incumbent. I have found that the great number of candidates, especially councilmembers, running for mayor have caused people to say that councilmembers should just stay where they are. Several organizations have determined to endorse every one for their current positions. This is a positive way of expressing opposition to the various challenges in the mayoral campaign, but it carries over to the chairmanship race.

Secondly, in a campaign such as the one for chair, which play second fiddle to other campaigns, a challenger must have alternative means to overcome the name-recognition advantage of the incumbent. From my experience, this usually involves a grass-roots campaign of one-on-one contact with the voters. I am very experienced

tional arms ended. We want the funds now spent on the military corporations shifted into housing, transportation, the arts—into the creation of jobs and programs of social welfare.

Black and white walked together in 1963 demanding freedom. For all the pain that has come between us, let us try that walk again, for our survival depends on it, and the survival of our children. Our hopes for jobs depend on freedom from the burden of the arms race. Our hope for national integrity depends on living in a world where we cannot bully our way. And while it is true that as nations go, all have sinned and come short of glory, true that Soviet nuclear bombs are every bit as deadly and as criminal as those of our government, we are the nation which ushered in the nuclear age with Hiroshima, by a unilateral act. Let us, by acts more courageous but no less unilateral, usher the world out of the age of terrorism.

And if you are as angry and as impatient and as worried as many in Japan and Europe, then join those of us who will sit down at the UN Missions of the five nuclear powers—U.S., Soviet, Chinese, French, and British—and accept arrest. By those mass arrests on June 14th, two days after the legal rally, we will make clear we are impatient and cannot wait. Reagan has given us an administration from the dark ages of our own history—let us give him a demonstration that reflects our best, and not our worst, our peaceful and nonviolent willingness to struggle for our America.

Visit my city. And if you want, visit our jails. History is made in many ways. By discussion and education. By voting. And also by demonstrations and arrests. All are part of the process—the good democrat will explore all these means. Come in June, vote with your feet and your body. Some demonstrations help to change history. On June 12th and 14th you may help to save history.

with this kind of campaign and do not shrink from it. However, with the current status of the voters' list being so questionable and with widely differing estimates of when a good list will be available, I am unable to depend very much upon this capability. If I cannot find out who the voters are, I cannot get to them.

Finally, there is one additional factor which I should not be squeamish in discussing, and that is the growing racial distrust in the community.

For the past eight years, I have represented a ward which is predominantly made up of persons who are of a different race than me. I am confident that I continue to enjoy the trust of the vast majority of the citizens of my ward and that I could again win election to my current seat.

The situation in my ward is one which is based on knowledge and shared experiences. In the city as a whole, however, as I have said before, the burden would be on me to introduce myself to persons in other wards with whom my relationship has been more distant. Over the past year, there has grown a distrust among our citizens which is aggravated by the character of the current national government. Reaganomics and Reaganism have caused a great division to develop within our nation. With the perception being that Reagan is but acting out a script written by an unknown, amorphous, conspiratorial author, a tendency to close ranks around what is familiar and demonstrable has developed. Racial delineations serve this purpose. Unfortunately, this division along very demonstrable lines sometimes obscures the true division which is the growing one between those who will cast their lots with the lesser-possessed and those who will cast them only with themselves in days when survival of the fittest is the predominant policy.

For a person such as myself, the choice becomes one of whether to put his record out there and try to get the citizens to focus upon it amongst all the other confusion of the year and chancing in the process the opportunity to continue to voice with-



in the government the causes I have undertaken, or to accept with forbearance the quality of the times and to trust the divine providence the opportunity to make use of what I feel I have to contribute.

After much consideration and even more prayer, I have chosen the latter course. It has not been easy; indeed it has been the hardest choice of my political career, but I feel that it is right. In choosing it, I reject any notion that my causes are not just or that I am unable to adequately perform any task I might have sought. I do what I do because I feel that I must look at the situation not only subjectively from what I can get and I can do but also objectively—from what my choice will mean within the dynamics, social and political, of the city. A campaign by me for chairman at this time would be obscured as to issues and the candidates, and the decision of the people would not carry a clear mandate for legislative direction. On the other hand, my continued membership on the council will enhance, or at least not diminish, council support for my causes.

As there is now no incumbent seeking the position of at-large member of the Council, I will not file my chairmanship candidacy, and will file, instead, my candidacy for the position of at-large member of the Council. In so doing, I will give to my ward the opportunity to have two of its citizens on the council, something it has never had, and to expand my own services.

\* \* \*

## I WILL RUN

I recently announced that I would not become a candidate for Council Chairman. The reasons for my decision were not that the current chairman is doing a good job (he is not) or that I felt that I could not do better. The reasons were that I felt that the real issues surrounding the chairmanship would be so obscured by other factors (overdominance by the mayoral campaign, condition of voters' lists, and growing distrust in the community) as to not justify my entering the campaign. At the time, I thought it to be the right thing to do.

After some serious reconsideration and noting that no other councilmember has become a candidate, I have concluded that it is far better for the city to have a campaign in which these issues are aired, albeit possibly obscured, than for the issues not to be raised at all. Somebody has to take a stand. Moreover, since making my announcement in which I tried to be sincerely forthright about my thinking, I have received a number of equally sincere communications from persons who thought that I was wrong. They have told me that, if I have something to say, I should say it.

There are real and serious issues which face the city and the council and which, I believe, are reflected in the differences between the incumbent's record and my own. They involve the growing distinction between survival of the fittest and government undertaking an active role on behalf of all its people which is essentially the distinction between the Republican and Democratic parties. These issues cannot be resolved by the people if they are not presented.

The following are some of what I perceive to be issues between the incumbent and myself:

In a time when the city has need for a coming together between the rich and not-so-rich, the incumbent has offered no leadership or direction but a rubber stamp:

- When Reagan cut AFDC programs for the working-poor, the incumbent, with all the computer capability he has developed in the Committee of the Whole, offered no leadership to the Council other than a rubber stamp. With the assistance of an aide and a pocket calculator, I was able to identify enough funds to create a parallel program to keep the working-poor working.

- With Reagan threatening the Medicaid program and the D.C. Medicaid budget underfunded by \$15 million, I was able to identify \$1.3 million in overbudgeted fuel costs to use for Medicaid. My proposal passed 7-6 with the incumbent voting against it.

- When, in 1979, a large utility failed to receive the rate increase it desired largely due to the hard work of the People's Counsel, the incumbent expressed support for measures drafted by the utility

designed to effectively limit the budget of the People's Counsel. I expressed opposition to those measures.

- The incumbent introduced legislation to enact a program to assist victims of crime (his only crime legislation) but declined my request for assistance in identifying funds to finance it. When I finally identified \$750,000 in overbudgeted fuel costs, and moved to spend the money for the victims program, the incumbent voted against the funding.

- The incumbent seeks the Democratic nomination with the most Republican record on the Council. According to a recent Board of Trade rating he has a record (92%) which surpasses that of the lone Republican Party member on the Council (85%). I do not consider a vote in favor of a Board of Trade position necessarily wrong (indeed my own record is 59%), but a 92% record does not reveal a balanced consideration of all points of view. It reveals a rubber stamp.

Where the incumbent has sought to offer direction, it has often been in conflict with the work of his colleagues as well as in the interests of those special interests whose positions he so often rubber stamps:

- In the adoption of what is the current rent control law, I was able to develop a compromise measure cosponsored by a majority of the Council before introduction. The incumbent, rather than joining with the majority, stuck by his own decontrol measure. The majority-backed measure passed, and the process which I created for it, absent the incumbent's leadership, was acknowledged at the time as the least acrimonious ever encountered in a rent control measure.

- When the antispeculation law extension went to the Council for final vote, it was the result of a compromise reached within the Council and between the competing community interests. When a small segment of the real estate industry staged a midnight raid on the Council with threats, spoken or unspoken, of placing members on a "hit list," the incumbent not only failed to stand up for his colleagues but aggressively participated in the subversion of the compromise.

Finally, the incumbent has failed to develop cohesion within the Council. His leadership has been weak and intermittent. When he has acted, he has used a sledgehammer to force his own policies rather than a needle and thread to weave a strong fabric:

## John Ray tells what he would do as mayor

*John Ray is running for the Democratic nomination for mayor. Here he outlines what he would do if he wins the post:*

### CITY MANAGEMENT

- Raise employee productivity and insist that city personnel treat citizens with courtesy and cooperation. This can be accomplished through such actions as judicious application of the Merit Personnel Act and through meaningful and intelligent training programs.
- Create an Office of Personnel Management and Training to develop and administer effective on-the-job instruction programs adjusted periodically to meet the demands of technological advances. This office also must ensure that employees are assigned to jobs where their talents and experience can be used best.
- Reorganize the executive branch of government to reduce inefficiency and duplication of effort, including eliminating the city administrator's office.
- Choose department heads of the highest caliber and nominate them promptly for permanent appointments, rather than saddling city agencies with the uncertainty of 'acting directors.'
- Tighten financial controls to ensure that we fur-

- The incumbent has viewed the individual talents of Councilmembers as personal threats rather than collective assets. He has unilaterally removed some members from positions of effectiveness and sought the removal of others. Every member of the Council should have a responsibility which will not be taken away by unilateral action of the Chair. Members of the Council serving on regional bodies should have the guidance and support of their Council colleagues rather than the threat of removal by the Chair.

- The incumbent has insisted that the Council Secretary share with him every personnel action on individual members' staffs. I will respect members' privacy and measure the success of the Secretary by the character of his or her administration and not by blind loyalty.

- The incumbent has seen the strength of the Council in such gimmickry as a computer to watch the Mayor's computer and a "Council Independence Act" to give the Council its own guard service and carpet cleaners. His efforts to increase the dignity of his colleagues have consisted of an unsuccessful effort to authorize them to celebrate marriages and a successful effort to authorize them to administer oaths. The strength of the Council as an institution does not lie in such gimmicks but in its ability to marshal the assets, contributions and abilities of all its members and mold them into a coherent, cohesive, and consistent policy for the city.

- The incumbent has not respected the integrity of the legislative process, his most sacred trust. Errors in legislation can be corrected by a court or amended by subsequent Council action; errors in the process have the effect of subverting democracy and are largely not correctible. The incumbent has used the process for his own ends with constant diversions from the rules and with erratic rulings.

It can be clearly seen from what I have said that there are some real issues between the incumbent and myself. These issues reflect not only the crucial issues facing the Democratic Party in the city but those facing the Democratic party in the nation. We do not need a Republican wing of the Democratic party.

I believe now, as I believed before, that I will make a good Chairman and a better one than the incumbent. As this is my honest belief, I will present myself and my positions to the electorate for its consideration. I have irrevocably filed my papers to become a candidate for the Chairmanship of the Council.

nish citizens an accurate account of the accumulated debt, as well as of estimated and actual revenues and expenditures, and that we promptly collect the revenues due—no more and no less.

- Establish neighborhood city halls at strategic locations across the city to make the government more responsive to the citizenry. These centers will offer a broad range of government services and will be staffed with employees transferred from their current assignments. These employees will be trained to deal with general problems and trained to understand the specific problems that concern the residents of individual neighborhoods.
- Establish a relationship with the City Council based upon cooperation and respect as a co-equal branch of government, including working with it to create the independence it desires and needs to do its job effectively.
- Assign men and women experienced in the congressional process to the city's Intergovernmental Relations Office to negotiate diplomatically but firmly with Congress to prevent vetoes of Council-passed legislation and to ensure adequate compensation for the services we provide.



## CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Work to prevent crime and work with the courts and prosecutors to ensure swift and certain imprisonment for those convicted of using a fire-arm in the commission of violent felonies, and for those convicted of selling or distributing dangerous, illegal drugs. My initiative on this subject, which I am working to have on the ballot this year, will give District citizens an opportunity to play a vital part.
- Reduce the inmate population by implementing alternative sentencing programs for non-dangerous offenders such as assigning them to community service work projects.
- Institute cost-effective in-house factory work and work training programs to help inmates prepare for a productive life at the time of their release.
- Establish an alternative system to handle certain classes of juvenile cases to unclog the Superior Court calendar. This will include innovative rehabilitation programs designed especially for young, first-time offenders found guilty of non-violent crimes.
- Work with public and private agencies to ensure that adequate drug rehabilitation funding is available to accommodate all those people who need and ask for help.
- Work with public and private youth agencies to establish educational programs for our young people concerning the lifelong consequences of drugs and crime.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ UNEMPLOYMENT

- Ensure completion of the comprehensive plan for the city required by the Home Rule Charter.
- Conduct a complete review of our tax structure with a view toward reducing or eliminating taxes which force businesses out of the city and taxes which produce short-term results and long-term hardships.
- Create an environment that will make the business men and women feel that our city wants them here and create the mechanisms to work with and facilitate their development.
- Push for legislation allowing the city to take advantage of the municipal leasing concept for the acquisition of property and equipment.
- Propose special relocation incentives, such as tax credits for relocation or renovation costs, for firms creating twenty or more new job opportunities.
- Promote a full-scale partnership with the private sector to reduce youth employment through the formation of a private, non-profit liaison organization pulling together the efforts of government, business, and labor.
- Institute a "one-stop" permit process to allow developers and small businesses to obtain speedy approval of their plans.
- Step up the recruitment of minority-owned firms to compete for city contracts and assist them to understand and follow the bidding process.
- Provide support staff to assist minority-owned firms and other small businesses until they gain the degree of stability necessary to manage their business.
- Institute studies to identify communities which would benefit from designation as incentive zones where significant long-term tax abatements and other arrangements can encourage business and job development. The advice of neighborhood organizations will be solicited in identifying and developing these zones.

## HOUSING

- Press for enactment of legislation designed to encourage developers to build low and moderate income rental units by providing land and tax incentives, and liberalizing the floor-ratio and mixed-use requirements to ensure reasonable rates for tenants and reasonable profits for landlords.
- Make a special effort to foster housing development for young, middle-class families so they can afford to buy or rent in the city.
- Push for legislation allowing first-time home buyers to take tax deductions for savings set aside for the down payment on a home.
- Explore ways to provide government-backed, long-term loans for first-time home buyers.
- Encourage and support the expansion of joint public-private housing development such as Ju-

# ...and if Betty Ann Kane was mayor, here's what she would do

*In the first of a series of position papers, Betty Ann Kane has outlined her program for the city in various areas. Here are some of her proposals:*

## Small business

- immediately develop the comprehensive land use plan called for in the city's Charter to ensure that future commercial development encourages small business opportunities.
- develop equitable property tax assessment procedures and criteria so that small businesses are not unfairly burdened.
- give preference to D.C.-based businesses for city purchases and contracts.
- utilize tax exempt bonds, land assembly and other tax incentives to aid blue collar industries to remain, expand, or locate in the District.
- work closely with the labor department and schools to provide education and training which will prepare D.C. residents for the kinds of quality jobs that really exist in Washington.
- establish a one-stop business center where all information and forms needed to businessmen can promptly and efficiently be provided.
- ensure speedy implementation of the city's new workers' compensation laws.
- provide additional security to businesses -- at no additional cost to the city -- by allowing off-duty police officers to be employed as security guards.
- coordinate city planning and services so that traffic and parking regulations, street repair and maintenance, tree planting and beautification projects, street lighting and cleaning, all contribute to creating a climate that helps small local business prosper.

## Rental housing

- target assistance to promote ownership particularly through the encouragement of low yield cooperatives - one of the best antidisplacement mechanisms a city can have.
- ensure that the city's housing and building codes are firmly and fairly enforced through regular and careful inspections and immediate action on code violations.
- develop a comprehensive land use plan that will provide incentives for mixed use development in commercial areas so that the provision of new rental housing is an integral part of the city's overall development policy.
- support reasonable rent control legislation which will provide all sectors of the District population with fair and equitable rental housing alternatives.
- encourage an increase in the supply of rental units in the District with new financing initiatives leveraged through the State Housing Finance Agency.
- seek out and listen to the opinions of tenants, landlords, builders, owners and realtors in formulating and promulgating equitable housing legislation.

## Women

- will continue to be a strong voice in support of the city's Human Rights law in both the public and private sectors.
- will work to increase the opportunities for women and other minority entrepreneurs to obtain D. C. contracts.



## RAY Cont'd

able House in Adams Morgan where a private non-profit corporation is working to restore abandoned, low-income rental property.

- Institute a "one-stop" permit process so qualified builders can begin construction quickly.
- Reform the landlord-tenant laws to define the rights and responsibilities of each party in a clear and fair manner.

### EDUCATION

- Support adequate funding of the school budget so that the city has sufficient resources to provide quality education.
- Support the development of "career schools" in conjunction with private business so that our students who choose not to pursue further education will be able to participate in the growing market for jobs such as legal aides, computer programmers, and medical and dental technicians.
- Support a one-time special allocation for the public school system to get the career schools off the ground quickly and to ensure their quality and their acceptability by the community and private industry.
- Develop a cooperative working relationship with the school superintendent, the school board, and the officials of the University of the District of Columbia in order to provide the leadership and support school authorities must have from the city's top elected official.
- Support a formula-based payment for the public school system so that the school board and the superintendent can make long-range plans for the system.
- Encourage a system that advances students on the basis of achievement as measured by objective educational tests.
- Press for a law that makes parents legally responsible for the acts and conduct of their children regarding the destruction of property and personal injury to others.
- Provide a forum for the superintendent, the police and other security officials to develop for guaranteeing the safety of schools and playgrounds.
- Push for vigorous enforcement of the truancy laws.

## KANE Cont'd

- will appoint more women to positions of authority in D. C. government.
- will vigorously support and expand programs in day care, job training and work equity that will allow women in the District to realize their full potential.

### Health

- implement immediately the recommendations of the several study commissions to reduce the shockingly high infant mortality rate in D. C.
- reorganize the present Department of Human Services to create a separate Department of Public Health.
- establish a Hospital Cost Containment Commission with rate setting authority.
- establish an option for pre-paid participation by Medicaid clients in Health Maintenance Organizations.
- coordinate and focus the programs of the Department of Employment Services, the University of the District of Columbia, and the D. C. Public Schools on job training and counseling for careers in health care - one of the fastest growing employment sectors in the metropolitan area.
- tighten enforcement of regulations to eliminate lead hazards.

### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Encourage the development of a health curriculum in schools that stresses personal health care and good nutrition.
- Move all health-related services into a separate department so that these services receive the priority they deserve.
- Move the child-support enforcement agency out of the Department of Human Services and into an income-generating agency.

- Develop neighborhood-based programs of pre- and post-natal maternal care to reduce the rate of infant mortality.
- Encourage the development of a direct and comprehensive sex-education program for youth in cooperation with parents to reduce the number of teenage pregnancies.
- Work with the non-profit groups in the city to help mobilize the maximum available resources to meet our serious human problems.
- Commit resources such as government-owned property and management personnel to help in the development of low-cost day care centers in all areas of the city.
- Promote community-based services to meet the health and housing needs of the elderly.
- Promote special employment and transportation services for this city's disabled persons.
- Ensure that all areas of our youth service programs are given the high priority they require to provide opportunities for a productive future for our young people.

### THE NEW FEDERALISM

- Confront the problems of federal cutbacks and a declining national economy by stressing and practicing sound financial principles to make government spending more efficient and cost effective, to broaden the tax base and create new jobs.
- Organize and establish a program of neighborhood support networks in conjunction with my proposal for neighborhood city halls.
- Work to establish a systematic program of community organizing and training to help people learn the skills and practice of mutual aid and neighborly sharing.
- Focus these support networks on individual neighborhoods and identify persons, churches, and neighborhood organizations that are willing to provide and coordinate mutual aid.
- Establish an office of volunteer action to be headed by a special assistant to the mayor to act as a clearing-house for self-help groups and to contact and coordinate financial sponsors for each group.
- Take the lead in articulating these programs and motivating citizens toward the concept of mutual aid.
- Lobby on Capitol Hill to preserve reasonable funding levels for the best and most necessary federal programs.

## No way to choose a president

*The Board of Trustees of the University of DC has selected Benjamin Alexander as the new president of the university in a closely divided vote. The UDC faculty Senate has passed a vote of no confidence in the selection process and a class action suit has been filed against the board for the way it went about selecting Alexander, currently president of Chicago State University. Here Meredith Rode, Senate Vice President, explains why she and other faculty members are so upset by the way Alexander was picked:*

First, I believe the selection process was unacceptable and at variance with all recently conducted searches within the institution. In these searches, which should serve as precedent, members of the university community have had the opportunity to meet and talk with the finalists and register opinion. In this presidential search, we had no information except rumor until the final announcement. Such a process mocks the term collegiality.

The Faculty Senate is on record in every possible forum and in every possible format urging widespread participation in the decision-making process. In the early Fall, a lengthy document on shared governance was forwarded to the Board of Trustees. It included a request for a joint meeting between administration, Board and faculty to develop an operational definition of shared governance. No re-

sponse was ever received. And yet, the public advertisement for the position of president of this university carried in it a requirement of a commitment to shared governance.

Again, in the Fall, a letter was forwarded to the Search Committee asking assurance that there would be opportunity to interview the finalists. We would have had the chance to inquire about such issues as faculty participation, stands on open admissions, and so on. Clearly, we did not have that chance. Because the search was closed, our representative was not permitted to seek our advice and consent. He was isolated from his constituency, as were all the other "representatives".

It is a small consolation, but the Board members themselves were apparently as ignorant as the rest of us as to what was transpiring. According to the Board's own documents, the members were presented with only a traditional vita and a brief statement of educational philosophy from Dr. Alexander. They did not speak with him—only those on the Search Committee did—they had no letters of reference, no articles, and no documentation of the sort faculty must present in abundance.

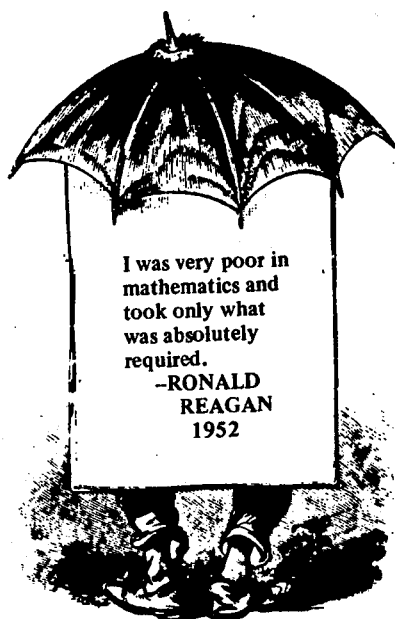
And yet, they acted—they acted in spite of a dramatic division of opinion. And they acted on the basis of less information than is required of faculty for a step increase!

How can I as a faculty member react when an appointment with so much implication for the future of this university is made by the casting of a tie-breaking vote? What confidence can I feel in the selection? Frankly, I feel the appoint-

(Please turn to next page)



# Weather



# Report

## NEAR NUKES

Michael T. Klare

While the vertical, nuclear arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union is heatedly debated in public and in Congress, an equally terrifying and vastly more expensive horizontal, conventional arms race is proceeding apace with little notice.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the world now spends some \$500 billion per year on military forces—of which 90 percent, or \$450 billion, is devoted to conventional forces. While the major industrial powers account for a very large percentage of that amount, Third World countries are spending more and more of their scarce capital on conventional weapons, and in many cases are now capable of fighting wars of near-nuclear intensity.

This Third World capacity will expand even faster in the 1980s as a result of increasing conventional arms sales by the United States and other major military suppliers. For a time, President Carter's much criticized "arms restraint" policy put a brake on surging U.S. weapons sales, but now President Reagan has removed such restraints and U.S. exports are expected to soar to record levels.

Because Soviet and French exports are also rising, total arms deliveries to the Third World could easily exceed \$1 trillion in the 1980s.

Conventional weapons are "conventional" only in the sense that they are non-nuclear; otherwise, they may be as familiar as the common handgun or as "unconventional" as napalm and white phosphorous. And while such arms may be less efficient than nuclear weapons in killing large concentrations of people rapidly, they are no less effective over the long run. According to some estimates, more than 25 million people have died since World War II in conflicts fought exclusively with conventional weapons.

Although controlling the nuclear arms race must be the world's number one priority, there are many reasons why conventional arms control merits almost as much attention:

- Conventional weapons are becoming more like nuclear arms in their capacity to destroy large concentrations of people. Recent developments in

the design of "cluster bombs"—large canisters which hold hundreds of individually-scatterable "bomblets"—suggest that conventional munitions can be substituted for tactical nuclear weapons in many situations involving large-scale destruction. The West German BD-1 cluster bomb, for instance, reportedly can decimate an area of three-quarters of a square mile—approximately 75 city blocks. Other new weapons, including advanced forms of napalm and so-called "air burst" munitions, can also duplicate the killing effects of a small nuclear warhead.

Because of growing opposition to nuclear weapons in Europe, NATO planners increasingly are talking of a new generation of "near nuclear" conventional weapons that could do just about everything that theater nuclear weapons can do.

- More countries are acquiring large arsenals of modern conventional weapons. Until as recently as 1970, most Third World armies were equipped with obsolete, World War II vintage arms acquired under the military aid programs of the superpowers. Today, through the worldwide trade in conventional weapons, these countries are acquiring many of the world's most advanced missiles, tanks, warships and bombers. According to the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the world spent some \$145 billion on imported arms between 1969 and 1978 (in constant non-inflated 1977 dollars), of which 75 percent—\$107 billion—was expended by Third World countries. Most experts agree, moreover, that this figure is likely to double or triple during the current decade. As a result, the arms inventories of countries like Iran, Israel, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Libya—with their multiple Phantoms, MIGs and Mirages—will more and more resemble those of the front-line states in NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

- Conventional wars are far more likely than nuclear wars. The world has witnessed 140 conventional wars and uprisings since 1945, and the likelihood is for more of the same in the turbulent years ahead. Many of these will be guerrilla con-

flicts or coups with relatively low levels of casualties, but some will be major regional wars like the Iran-Iraq conflict or the Arab-Israeli wars, with very large numbers of casualties. As conventional weapons become more powerful, these wars will be fought at higher and higher levels of violence and destructiveness. Thus, while individually, none of these wars would approximate the catastrophe of a limited nuclear war, a series of them might.

- Nuclear wars are most likely to grow out of conventional wars. Any realistic assessment of likely war scenarios would suggest that a nuclear war would probably begin as a conventional war, when the superpowers intervene in a local conflict. In such a situation, one side or the other might find that its conventional forces are in danger of defeat and thus resort to the use of tactical nuclear weapons, which then invite retaliation and counter-retaliation at even higher levels of nuclear violence until we reach all-out thermonuclear war. Indeed, such escalation is becoming more likely precisely because of the growing proliferation of conventional arms.

- Of the \$1.6 trillion President Reagan wants to spend on military power over the next five years, approximately 85 percent—\$135 trillion—will be devoted to conventional weapons and forces. Much of this vast sum will be spent on refurbished battleships, the rapid deployment force, and other interventionary forces that will add nothing to basic U.S. security, but will increase the risk of U.S. involvement in future Vietnam-type wars.

No one should underestimate the importance of a genuine nuclear weapons freeze. But in pushing for such a move, advocates should not forget the urgency of conventional arms control. As long as there is no freeze on the proliferation of conventional weapons, the world is just as likely to face Armageddon—it just might take a little longer.

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*Michael Klare is a fellow of the Institute for Policy Studies and is the author of numerous books on military policy.*



# Children of recession

ALLISON ENGEL

They are the uncounted casualties in the grim statistics on layoffs and shutdowns—the children of the unemployed.

While attention is focused on jobless adults, their children also are suffering—sometimes even more traumatically—as families undergo dramatic and bewildering change. When researchers do study them, they find that young children of the unemployed tend to become sick more frequently, to be victims of parental abuse more often.

Even more common is a loss of faith in the virtue of hard work experienced by teens on the threshold of adulthood. Youths interviewed in three regions with high unemployment spoke frequently of the unfairness of unemployment for parents who had worked hard all their lives.

Said David Montgomery, 18, of Portland, Oregon, whose father was laid off from his job as a diesel truck mechanic last January: "It's a horrible situation. I wouldn't want to trade places with him. He's 51-years-old and he's worked every day of his life. It's frustrating to watch your world disintegrate around you."

Anne Pye, 18, of Tillamook, Oregon, whose father was laid off last October from a plywood mill after 21 years, said she is still angry six months later. "My Dad's a good guy; he just doesn't deserve this. Why is this happening. We've always been good people."

The critical point that came through in the interviews was that the absence of work was far more damaging than the absence of money. These ordered middle-class lives where work has been counted on for decades to provide structure and meaning suddenly have become jumbled.

Children of all ages are unsettled by the abrupt changes in family routine following the loss of a job. Often, mothers are forced to work when they discover they can secure low-paying waitress and clerk jobs even when their husbands can't find work. This pattern of fathers losing jobs and mothers supporting the family is an oft-noted characteristic of poor black families, but the current recession has brought the trend to middle-class whites. The resulting role reversals of mother and father can be painful.

"I don't see my Mom that much anymore," said Karla Miller, 17, of Woodhaven, Michigan, a Detroit suburb. Her father was laid off nearly a year ago from his machine repair job at Ford Motor Co., and her mother now works at a cookie store in a shopping mall. Although Karla works after school at a clothing store in the same mall, their hours rarely overlap. Her father now takes care of her nine-year-old brother.

"My dad wants to work—he hopes to work," said Karla. "Right now, his patience is kinda low."

Said Christine Norris, 16, of Tillamook, whose father was laid off from a plywood mill and whose mother now works as a waitress, "It's very hard

for my Mom. We're used to having her at home. And it's been hard for me."

It's also hard on Christine's father, John. "I can't find a job pumping gas. I can't find a job doing anything except playing music on weekends. You know a man's got a certain amount of pride and it strips you of that. Your wife's out there, bringing in what she can. My wife's working four days a week. It's kind of hard to sit back and accept that. And she wants to come back home and be a housewife. But she's out there bringing in some of the money so we can survive."

Some families face even more wrenching change. Albert Foster, 47, of Warm Springs, California, who lost his job in the paint department of General Motors after 23 years when the plant in nearby Fremont closed, said he is moving his family of eight north to the timber country near Redding where they will live in a trailer on a piece of land they own.

Foster is moving now to save their monthly rent and utility bills which total nearly \$700. That means the family's six children, ages 7 to 17, will live with relatives until school is out. Except for the youngest, who is glad to move because "it's nice up there," the children are distraught at having to leave their schools and friends. Especially upset is Paul, the eldest, who is involved in football and track and had been looking forward to his senior year.

Not many recent studies have been made of families of the unemployed. But one pediatrician who surveyed a small number found that children were roughly one-and-a-half times more likely to experience illness after a parent's job ends. Dr. Lewis Margolis, who works at the University of North Carolina's Health Services Research Center, said a more serious side effect of unemployment is a sharp increase in child abuse. He cited an extensive 1968 study of child abuse that found that children in a home where the father had been recently unemployed were six times more likely to be abused.

Margolis noted that parental joblessness is a more common experience for children today than other distressing events like divorce, death of a parent or hospitalization. In 1980, 18.1 percent of the labor force experienced some sort of unemployment nationally, he said, predicting that this year the number would exceed 20 percent. Margolis said he believed the loss of a job affects younger children more severely than their older siblings, who are more likely to understand what's going on and have friends outside the family to turn to for support. "Younger children are more isolated within the family," he noted.

Some teenagers say that a parent's joblessness can bring the family closer together, but many more say there are unaccustomed tensions at home. David Montgomery of Portland said his unemployed father blows up sometimes "because it gets to him. It's so monotonous, every day the same thing. It's just depressing."

David, a high school senior, is now the only one working in the Montgomery family. He holds a part-time maintenance job in the company where his father used to work. He counts himself lucky that he and his father are relatively close and can discuss the family's finances. "I really wonder how many parents confide with their kids about how bad it is. I imagine many kids really don't know how bad things are."

It was prom night at Tillamook High. But the pride and festiveness of previous proms was wearing visibly thin this year as students confront the meaning of a community in the throes of 20.2 percent unemployment.

Christine Norris, 16, did not attend the prom at all. "A lot of guys just don't have the money," she said.

Kim Burnham, 15, attended with a new pair of shoes and a heavy load of guilt. "My parents have sacrificed more than they ever did before for us to be happy," said Kim, whose father has been unemployed since October and whose mother has gone to work part-time. "My Mom hasn't had a new pair of tennis shoes in so long, and she needs them because she works as a waitress. She bought me a new pair of shoes to wear to the dance. I appreciate that more than many parents know."

These are hard times for Tillamook, and for hundreds of other communities which are experiencing record-high joblessness. But for the

young people in these communities—those who have been taught that security lies in hard, steady work—the hard times have a special poignancy. Many have experienced their parents' shock of finding themselves unemployed after decades of hewing to the hard work ethic. Many now question the value of that ethic and are asking themselves whether they have not become redundant before they even have a chance to enter the work force. And many are being forced to forfeit the pleasures of youth to become early breadwinners.

"I know a lot of graduates," said Christine. "They talked about big dreams, about going to college. I see a lot of them working at gas stations and restaurants. Some got married. They had big dreams. But they got shot down."

Even before they leave school, the children of the unemployed get a painful education in the meaning of recession. In Tillamook, a tax levy failed to pass in March and school administrators are preparing cutbacks in programs for next year. Some extra-curricular activities will probably be suspended.

But many students have already dropped out of the programs. Some high school girls recently quit the school musical because they couldn't afford the long dresses needed for costumes. When the girls' basketball team took third place in the state this year, many students couldn't attend the out-of-town tournament because the chartered fan bus cost \$3. Attendance at dances like the prom, which require formal wear, is down, and the search for after-school jobs is definitely up, say school administrators.

Said Joyce Gleiss, a school counselor in the Detroit suburb of Woodhaven: "There are kids here who work til midnight and 2 a.m. There are even kids working fulltime and going to school."

Increasingly, she said, students are using the money they earn to help put food on the table. "It is not uncommon for parents to tell me that their child is the only one in the family working."

Absenteeism is up, as are the number of sleepy students, she said. "I see students with falling grades, not able to come in for help sessions because they can't stay after school."

Dating also is scaled down—fewer movies, dances, restaurant dinners. Karla and her unemployed boyfriend mostly just watch TV these days.

"Only a handful of kids" are going on the traditional senior trip to Florida, said Carol Prawdzik, a counselor at Carlson Highschool in Gibraltar, another Detroit suburb. Of 250 seniors, probably only 50 will go, she said.

Counselor Alice Barringer of Romulus High said she sees adults competing for jobs once reserved for youth, particularly homemakers who are taking low-paying, part-time sales jobs. Students are also working night shifts as aides or orderlies in nursing homes. "Whenever there's a plant closing, kids pour into my office looking for jobs, saying, 'My family really needs the money.' They don't seem to correlate that there are even less jobs as adults are laid off."

Despite the strong signals they are receiving that the world is not their oyster, Barringer said it is difficult for students to grasp how the labor market has changed. "These kids are still thinking they're going to graduate and work for GM on the line. This is in an area where they've been laying off people with 10 and 15 years seniority."

Seeing parents out of a job can cause children to scramble for part-time employment and feel the urge to work even harder in an attempt to avoid the same fate. Or, they may think of themselves as a drain on their parents and subconsciously blame themselves for the family's troubles. Some children, in a Jekyll and Hyde maneuver, swing from one feeling to the other. Said Anne Pye, "I wish I could take part of the pressure off. I wish I had a job. It makes me feel terrible to walk up to Mom and Dad and say, 'I need a couple of dollars.'"

When she sees other kids whose parents are working and don't need to sacrifice, Anne said, "I almost begin to wonder—God, are you punishing me? Have I done something wrong? You get the feeling from other kids that you're the avoidable—the scum of the earth. We're not. We're probably better people because we know how to survive."

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## Weather Report

The Weather Report is published monthly, October through June, by the DC Gazette. The Weather Report comes free with a subscription to the Gazette, but is also available mailed first class anywhere in the US for \$8 a year. The Weather Report uses the services of Pacific News Service, College Press Service, Community Press Features and HerSay News Service.

EDITOR: Sam Smith

Address all correspondence and orders to the Weather Report, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009. (202-232-5544). Please make checks payable to the DC Gazette.



The Clean Water Action Project, an 11 year-old Nader-founded water lobby is looking for people to work in summer jobs, full-time employment, and part-time. Salaries range from \$7500 to \$12,000. The Clean Water Action Project works on grassroots campaigns such as fighting to save the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act and fighting boondoggle water projects and toxic waste contamination. Info: 202-638-1196.

§

The Reagan Administration's proposed cuts in student financial aid could end up costing the government hundreds of billions of dollars in lost tax revenue. The College Press Services estimates that this year alone, the cuts will force 67-thousand high school seniors to drop plans for college and reduce their earning power by 30 percent, compared to what they'd make if they received college degrees. Over a lifetime that means about \$4300 in lost revenue for every dollar cut from student aid.

§

Supporters of nuclear freeze last month submitted petitions with about 750,000 signatures to get a California initiative on the ballot in November. That's more than twice as many as required.

§

Networking is a guide to over 1500 social change organizations broken into topic areas and cross-referenced. The accompanying discussion is rather opaque but the data is extremely useful. Published by Doubleday, it costs a hefty \$15.95 in paper.

§

Self-Reliant Cities is a new book by David Morris that tells how cities can become energy efficient and self-reliant by combining modern technologies with local political authority. Available from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, 1717 18th St. NW, DC 20009.

§

According to the Cornucopia Project, it now takes ten times as much energy to produce one calorie of food as it did in 1910. In Iowa alone, topsoil is eroding at

## Action Notes

a rate that would fill a five-ton truck every second. Says project leader Robert Rodale, the food industry is heading down the same path as the American car industry by refusing to forsake short-term profits for a long-range strategy.

§

The National Association of Working women has renamed itself Nine to Five. It now has 12,000 members in ten cities.

§

There's now a foundation that is specifically designed to fund women's projects. Just a few months after it opened it had already raised \$50,000. Marya Grambs of the Women's Foundation (3543 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94110) says that funding for women's project has suffered from "incredible neglect" in the past, partly because women who do have money are intimidated by it, and don't exercise control over where it goes. To help women overcome their fear of finance, Grambs says, the Women's Foundation offers seminars in money management, investments, taxes, and, of course, philanthropy.

§

An expert on artificial intelligence says the term "computer revolution" could soon take on a new and more violent meaning. Dr. Joseph Weizenbaum of MIT says there's a growing communications gap creating two classes of Americans - those who have access to computers, and those who don't. Weizenbaum predicts the gap will widen over the years, as some Americans learn to profit from home and office computers, while others are frozen out of the technology completely. "The separation will become unbridgeable," he says, and could result

in violence as serious as that in Northern Ireland. "My hunch is that the division will be pretty much along class and race lines. As usual, the poor will get poorer, and the well-off will continue to be well-off and will continue to receive the tools that make it possible to be well-off."

§

The University of California's Harold Wilensky says that since 1950 the countries spending the most on social programs, -- West Germany, Sweden and the Netherlands -- have enjoyed the largest growth in production and the lowest rates of inflation and unemployment. The US economy has lagged in comparison, Wilensky says, while spending a smaller percentage of its GNP on welfare programs.

§

A Harvard Medical School professor says that the risk of nuclear war is increasing, due to incompetence, mental instability and drug abuse among soldiers at nuclear weapons facilities. Dr. James Muller says the army removes 5000 soldiers from nuclear assignments each year, mostly for alcohol or drug abuse, including about 250 each year dismissed for using LSD or heroin.

The risk of an accidental nuclear attack grows, Muller says, as the superpowers build more complicated weapons, reducing the warning time before an attack, and as third world countries gain access to nuclear arms, without the technical expertise to control them.

§

The Center for Popular Economics in Amherst, Massachusetts is offering a week-long course in economics for activists in labor unions; tenants', minority and women's organizations; the environmental movement, and other progressive groups. There will be four one-week sessions of the Summer Institute for Popular Economics at Hampshire College in Amherst in 1982: July 11-17 and August 1-7, 8-14, and 15-21.

The teaching staff for the Summer Institute are all associated with the Economics Department at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. The cost for the seven-day session, for room, board, and the use of recreational facilities is \$200 for low income people and \$300-400 for others. Scholarships are available. For additional information and an application form for the Summer Institute, please write to the Center for Popular Economics, P.O. Box 785, Amherst, Massachusetts 01004.





Baylor University mathematics professor Max Shauck has been using candy factory wastes to produce the ethanol that powers his single engine airplane. The fuel costs are about \$1.30 a gallon, about half the price of standard airplane fuel, but the exhaust, Shauck says, "smells just like a Snickers Bar."

The New York Times recently refused to publish an ad for women's shoes, depicting the backside of a male nude painted by Michaelangelo. The offending ad eventually made it into the pages of the Times, but only after a retouching artist dressed the four-centuries-old nude -- in shorts.

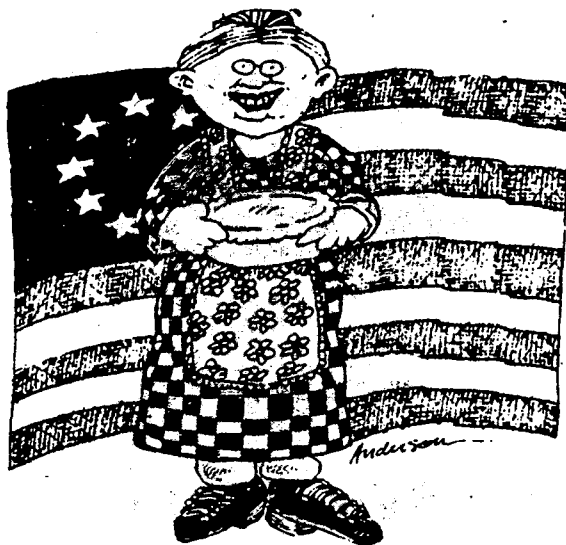
A Los Angeles man faces a possible 15-year prison sentence for trying to snatch a football during a game between the Oakland Raiders and the Miami Dolphins. Attorney Bennet Lapidus calls the charges against Francis Scheiber "ludicrous" and a "waste of time." He adds, "I handle rapes, murders and armed robberies. And this kid is facing 15 years in prison for this?" Prosecutors, however, say they regard football-snatching as equivalent to purse-snatching.

The circulation of Mad Magazine has dropped to about a million, less than half the numbers sold during the magazine's heyday a decade ago. Says publisher William Gaines, "I don't know if Mad has much of a future. Kids aren't as rebellious as they used to be." Media expert John Reidy agrees, "It's just harder to make fun of things," he says. "Nowadays kids already know everyone lies."

The FBI is investigating a counterfeit ring that is passing bogus baseball cards. Federal agents are hot on the heels of an underground operation turning out bogus reprints of a Pete Rose rookie card, issued 19 years ago by the Topps Bubble Gum Company. Baseball card collector Mark Lewis grew suspicious when someone showed up at a collectors show with more than 100 mint condition copies of the 1963 card. Lewis took one of them to an FBI lab, where it was confirmed a fake, but not before at least one copy sold for \$140. With some genuine cards selling for as much as \$250, Lewis says, "You're talking about a half-million dollar scam here."

Erno Rubik, inventor of the notorious cube, was selected as one of the judges of a world cube-twisting championship, but not as one of the contestants. Rubik doesn't meet the only entry requirement -- the ability to solve the puzzle in one minute.

Prisons in Sweden are so overcrowded that authorities are putting up some convicted felons in comfortable, modern hotels. One such hotel in the city of Sundsvall houses ten inmates in spotlessly clean rooms elegantly finished in Scandinavian pine. It offers a spacious lounge overlooking a courtyard, and inmates are given the choice of watching either one of two color tv sets or using the hotel's mixed-sex sauna. The London Observer says several prisoners like hotel life so much they are insisting on the right to serve full sentences, rejecting early releases. Says one prisoner, "What's so nice about the hotel is you



## Apple Pie

can relax here. You can have your own room with a key, or chat with others over coffee in the lounge. In prison, I could never relax."

The drug industry thinks it may be the verge of solving one of its most perplexing problems, namely developing a safety cap that is both childproof but still easy for adults to open. The American Council on Safety and Health says millions of grown-ups are so frustrated by current safety caps that they leave the lids off altogether, and many other folks transfer their drugs to easy-to-open containers, losing all their important label information. A new cap, however, has been designed that is two-sided. Put it on one way and it's child resistant; put it on the other way and it becomes a conventional flip-top cap. This way adults without children won't have to struggle with childproof caps.

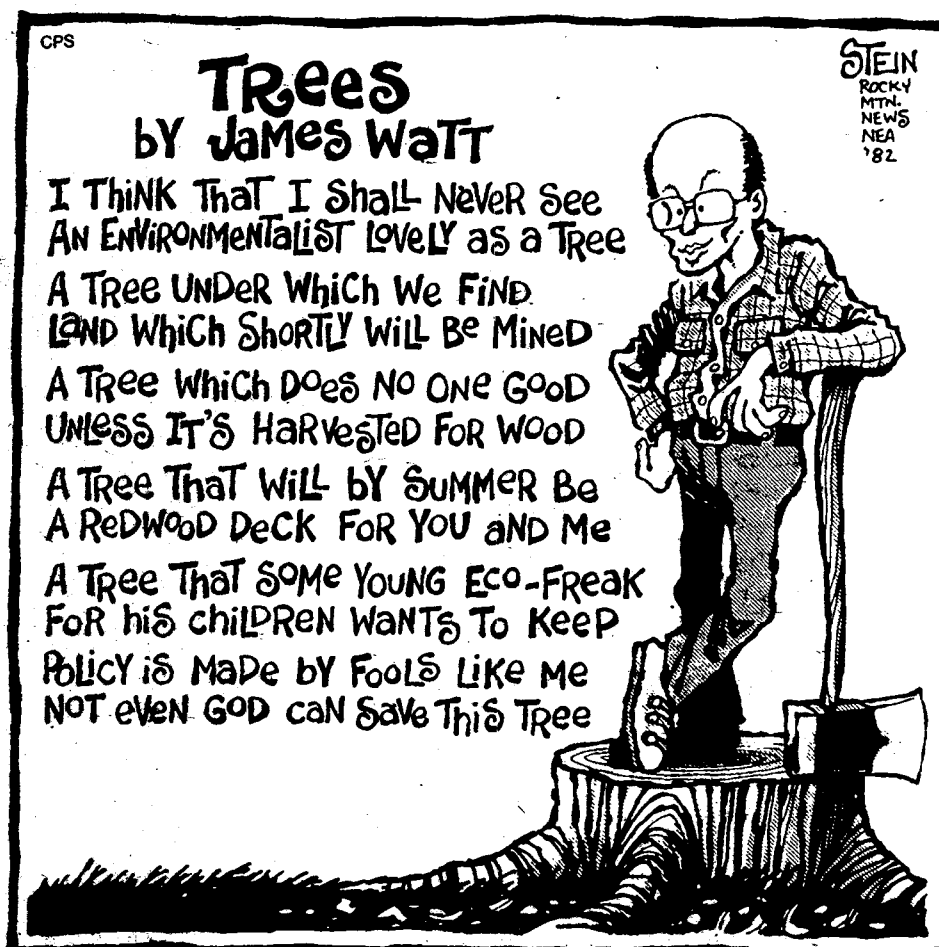
If you think your last memo was ignored, you have a fifty percent chance you're right. According to Professor Bonner Ritchie at Brigham Young University, half of all business memos are ignored. When people don't understand what memos mean or if they don't like their conclusions, they simply forget about them.

Here's another note from the wonderful world of civil defense. Everyone loves Missoula, Montana. The federal government in 1977 designated Missoula as a likely target for Soviet missiles. On the other hand, the Montana state "crisis relocation plan" designates Missoula as a "host" city for thousand of people fleeing other communities.

If you hate rollercoasters you'll detest the "freefall," the newest sadistic addition to amusement parks. It features a 120-foot plunge straight down. Four passengers are strapped into a metal case side-by-side, and pulled to the top of a 128-foot tower. They hang there momentarily and then plunge downward in just two and a half seconds, coming to a stop upside down after decelerating at three and a half Gs.

According to Security World magazine, the most commonly shoplifted items are socks. In second place is women's perfume, followed closely by steaks. Among other popular targets are Tylenol, peanuts and underwear.

Harvard Medical School researchers have confirmed reports that Tibetan monks, during meditation, can raise their skin temperatures by as much as 15 degrees. The temperature changes were enough in one experiment to dry out sheets that had been dipped in icy water and draped over the monks.



## What you mean 'we?'

I was glad to learn recently that all my years of not reading Susan Sontag were not wasted. In fact, I never even knew that she was, in the words of Newsweek, "the very model of left-liberal intellectual." Of course, that may be because during a couple of decades of hanging around leftists, liberals and intellectuals, I never so much as heard someone cite her over a quiche. But then again, I stay away from New York City as often as possible where she apparently was something of a prophet, so I may have missed her parochial importance.

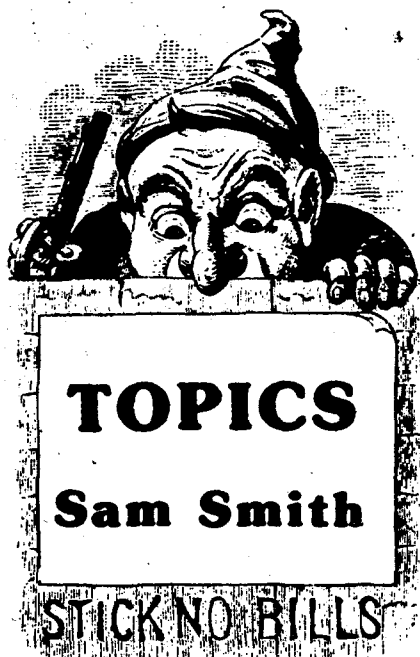
Reading reports of her speech to a recent Polish Solidarity solidarity rally suggests that if this is the best Manhattan has to offer in the way of left-liberal intellectuals it is suffering terminal brain drain. Sontag told the audience "There are many lessons to be learned from the Polish events, but I would maintain the principle lesson \*\*\* is the \*\*\* failure of communism, the utter villainy of the communist system. If has been a hard lesson to learn. And I am struck by how long it has taken us to learn it."

So am I, but I am even more struck by Ms. Sontag's flippant use of the editorial us, essentially tarring all of progressive America with her own recently discarded naivete. The rightist media -- from Newsweek to William F. Buckley -- just loved it, the most exciting meeting of the minds since the latter first encountered Whittaker Chambers. And Haynes Johnson cited it as an example of "a refreshing new realism that is dominating thought in the nation today," along with other cases that suggested that what Haynes really liked was domestic apathy.

Implicit in both Sontag's remarks and rightist reaction to it is an assumption that most leftists and liberals previously thought the programs and policies of the Soviet bloc were just jim-dandy. There are, to be sure, some on the left who have aligned themselves with the Soviets or China and there are some who embrace in a sort of 19th century romantic fashion various small country authoritarian-left regimes that give them wonderful tours which carefully avoid prisons, interrogation rooms and the like. I suspect a disproportionate number of both groups live in New York.

But most of the leftists and progressives I have known over the years simply don't talk about such matters. They recognize, implicitly or explicitly, that the business of producing social change and world peace begins at home. There is an immense variety of good and evil in the world, but one can't affect what one can't touch. During the Vietnam war, the hawks liked to cite the evils of Hanoi as justification for continuation of the battle. It was an ultimately irrelevant argument because the moral responsibility of Americans was not to instill honor in Hanoi but in Washington.

Ever since the beginnings of the Cold War there has seemed an inverse relationship between the amount of time people spent worrying, writing and talking about matters over which they had only marginal control (such as the Soviet Union) and the level of their concern and involvement they had for problems they could do something about (such as those



of one's own country or city). There is a whole class of Americans who have made a living on the premise that this country exists in order to have the proper macho relationship with the communist bloc, as though a tree falling in an American forest that the Soviets did not hear would make no sound.

I'm not suggesting that matters foreign are of no import or that we are helpless or morally absolved from becoming involved in them. Only that there are orders of importance and, in the effort to improve society, the first order is what one can change. This is something that most American progressives seem to understand, even if Ms. Sontag doesn't. Her speech did nothing but perpetuate the stereotype that all leftists, liberals and progressives are as mindless as she claimed once to be. And thus it became a sort of intellectual libel.

Life moves on, and by the time you receive this the Falklands affair may have expanded into a full-scale limited nuclear war or it may have deescalated into an exchange of sheep droppings. I tend to side with the British on the matter, not out of any nostalgia for the vestiges of empire, but based on the same argument I've used when people tell me that DC is too small to become a state, namely that it is people who vote, not acres, cows or factories. One of the more salutary trends of the post-war world has been a growing recognition that self-determination is more important than self-proximity. A number of countries, including Israel and the British themselves (cf. Northern Ireland) are still having trouble understanding this concept, but movement seems to be in the right direction. To declare that arcane history and geographical contiguity should dominate over the druthers of the occupants of a particular piece of turf leads only to many tears and dead bodies.

I generally avoid the back page of the US News & World Report lest it diminish my otherwise high respect for



that publication. This page is reserved for the editor's stalwart defense of American capitalism -- which, given the nature of the USN&WR's readership, is a little like inveighing against pot to a group of senior citizens. Curious, however, as to how Marvin Stone would choose between Margaret Thatcher and a right-wing junta, the piece on the Falklands caught my eye. Stone came out forthrightly for the Union Jack and quoted the former Buenos Aires bureau chief for his magazine as saying that Argentina suffered from a number of defects that might discourage Kelpers from seeking its protection. For example:

- An individual can be jailed for disrespect to the armed forces, flag or other institutions.

- There is an official list of churches and new congregations must obtain a permit.

- Argentines and foreign residents must have not one but two sets of identity papers.

- Women have few rights. A mother travelling unaccompanied by the father must have his notarized, court-registered permission.

- There is an official list of names of children from which parents must choose. Andrew, to take one example, is not on it.

While it may be true that the British have treated the Kelpers rather shoddily, such restrictions probably make even Margaret Thatcher look good.

Geraldine Jones, one of Philadelphia's five "most-wanted" criminals, surrendered some weeks back to Philadelphia Daily News senior editor (and Gazette contributing correspondent) Chuck Stone. Jones was the 14th criminal suspect to surrender to Stone since 1977 in Philadelphia, where there is more than a little distrust of the local constabulary.

The reason I can't get Jerry Brown out of my mind is because he has a disturbing way of popping out of his innumerable crises and telling a bit of the truth. Some weeks back he was in town for the governors conference, at which a major topic was Ronald Reagan's flim-flam known as the "New Federalism."

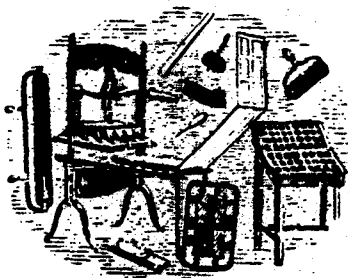
Most politicians faced with an absurd idea that has been proclaimed as the thought of the month by the president and the media, simply cave in and say stuff like Governor Richard Snelling, a Republican from Vermont, who had been quite critical of the president. Said Snelling at a White House dinner, the governors "appreciate that you have been one of us and want the government to come back to us. \*\*\*\* You have demonstrated that you will treat the federal partners as partners."

By way of comparison, here is what Jerry Brown had to say about the new federalism as he arrived for the same dinner: "More people are talking about it who don't want to. It's a very esoteric subject and they are arguing about it when they would really [rather be talking about] unemployment, high interest rates. \*\*\*\* By this myterious process [we] are talking about a subject we are totally disinterested in. \*\*\*\* I've been talking about it for two days -- that illustrates my point."



# THE PRESS

Bob Alperin



Gaps in *The Washington Post's* Central American coverage occurred despite extensive and often excellent reporting. Having revealed a US plan to destabilize Nicaragua, the paper ignored a relevant CBS report. An ex-Green Beret's old commander made him an offer he eventually refused: \$50,000 for six months work which included infiltration of air drops into Nicaragua to do what he did in Vietnam. He wouldn't say what he did, but he reported the deal included generous insurance for his family.

Secretary Haig told a congressional committee it may be necessary to remove limitations on US advisers in El Salvador engaging in combat. The *Post* ran 40 inches on the hearing but not a word on that point. A *Miami Herald* reporter and a *Houston Post* wire editor had it in their first sentences. While the *Post* reports temporary suspensions of *La Prensa*, a critic of the Sandanistas, it ignored similar action against a pro-government paper whose banner headline inaccurately reported a "state of siege" rather than a "law of emergency." The *Miami Herald*, probably the daily leader in Latin American coverage, had it.

Many media simply noted the guerrillas refused to participate in the Salvadorean elections. The *Post* said leftists were "maintaining" they'd be killed by right wing groups. Why not say likely candidates were on the military's published hit list?

The *Herald* was tops in election mechanics. Voters' ID's and fingers were marked with a substance visible only under special light. Thus, would-be repeat voters were to be foiled. (It also enabled the government, but not the guerrillas, to know who had voted.) The *Post* described the voting process without noting the marking. The *Herald* excelled in explaining what the Constituent Assembly being elected was to do, and how seats were won under the proportional representation system in use. It provided an easy-to-grasp hypothetical case.

US media spotlighted the high voter turnout and how the guerrilla campaign against voting failed. On MacNeil-Leher, the *Herald's* Shirley Christian said that guerrilla leaders were divided on how to deal with the elections, disruptions or ignoring as irrelevant, being the alternatives she noted. (She also reported right-wing threats to non-voters.) The *Times* found that nullified or blank ballots exceeded those of two or three parties in some places. Of the first 33% of the votes counted, a bit over 10% had been cast thus, as the rebels suggested.

The *Los Angeles Time* reported the Green Cross (a volunteer ambulance and social work group) telling one refugee camp to vote "for your own safety." Voters generally said they voted as a duty, but some whispered they feared not to. The *Times* reported that after repelling rebels in one area, the army dragged several residents from their homes and beat them. A young woman claimed this frightened many into voting. The *Herald*, not the *Post*, observed that non-voting is illegal and that people might fear an unmarked ID would cause them to be considered guerrillas.

Factors such as fear or coercion may not account for the huge turnout but they ought not be ignored. Recall the Zimbabwe Rhodesia election

in which the guerrillas didn't participate and Muzorewa won with a big turnout in an election leaving in place white minority control of the country. Aside from President Carter, most U.S. politicians joined the media in hailing the vote as a repudiation of marxist guerrillas. How shocked they were when marxist Mugabe and the voters obliterated Muzorewa when peace brought an internationally-supervised election. Information on how Muzorewa's win was manipulated was ignored by our media.

\* \* \*

In a gripping account of the murders of most members of two Salvadorean families, the *Post* noted that there was usually no evidence but "the dead or the documentation supplied by organizations sympathetic to the left." Has the *Post* found Amnesty International or the various Catholic Church-related organizations reporting on El Salvador to be inaccurate? Only weeks before the above-noted murder story the paper gave but a few lines to an Amnesty report with similar accounts from a wider range of cases. In its fuller story, the *Hartford Courant* printed AI's claim that army and police units as well as para-military squads were implicated in the killings. The victims were not only those suspected of opposing the government but "thousands...whose death or mutilation seems to have been completely arbitrary." AI knew of guerrilla abuses but found most violations were by security forces against persons not involved in guerrilla activities.

The *Boston Globe* ran an AP story saying that political murders in El Salvador had increased to 11,000 in 1981, and not decreased to 6,000 as Reagan claimed in certifying human rights improvements there. The source: the UN Human Rights Commission's special representative in El Salvador. He also contradicted Salvadorean army claims that the UN had been invited to investigate the army's claim that the rebels had killed 150-200 civilians in Nueva Trinidad. The UN man said that the army and paramilitary groups were mostly involved in "violations about life, liberty, and security of peasants" while "violations of human rights that arise from public and private property came most from the guerrillas."

(When the UN Commission voted to investigate Poland (UPI, *Miami Herald*), the first such action against a Communist state, the *Post* ignored it.)

\* \* \*

A Chilean labor leader was killed after calling for more union solidarity to combat the Pinochet government. Less than a week later an otherwise fine *Post* report on the administration's review of military aid to Chile ignored the murder although human rights were a major part of the discussion.

\* \* \*

The *Post*, like many media, greeted the State Department's March white paper on El Salvador by assuring its audience that there was little new and a lack of documentation. It printed a list of charges against Cuba and Nicaragua without informing readers of the evidence or lack of it. The *Miami Herald* had the white paper plus a fine

analysis by James McCartney of its Washington bureau. He noted what was documented and what wasn't. There was but one "reasonably well-documented case" of arms flow to El Salvador from Nicaragua. It dated back to January, 1981. (Early this year the *New York Times* did a story from Honduras reporting no evidence of arms flowing through there as the Administration charges.) Although the Administration repeatedly blames the USSR and Cuba for the rebellion the white paper didn't mention the former, and provided little on the latter.

\* \* \*

The Salvadorean government and US conservatives claim the media favor the guerrillas. It's said they focus too much on the security forces' killings of civilians. US Ambassador Deane Hinton thinks a focus on that has reporters missing the big picture. He has a solution. He tells Salvadorean officials: "clean up your act, coverage will change." (Hinton was on Hodding Carter's PBS program.) Another charge: reporters don't know the language. But the papers most under fire, the *Post* and *Times*, use reporters fluent in Spanish as a Council on Hemispheric Affairs article noted.

Denying the obvious doesn't help credibility. A January rebel attack wrecked a batch of planes and helicopters. The US sent some replacements later, but at the time Salvadorean Defense Minister Gen. Garcia denied there was major damage or dead soldiers (UPI, *Dallas Morning News*.)

\* \* \*

The *New York Times* alerted readers about two neglected areas, both potential US trouble spots. There was an op-ed piece on the Virgin Islands and a news story on Micronesia. The US has ruled the latter, taken from Japan, as a UN Trust since 1947. It has been a plus for education but neglected infrastructure. The area is short on paved roads, electricity, water, and communications, and long on unemployment.

\* \* \*

*Post* Business section banner headline: "Rohatyn Fears Recession Will Lead to Urban Violence." Two sub-heads equally divide the page. One was "Dole Presses to Repeal Tax Leasing Provision." May we infer repeal will reduce the danger of violence?

\* \* \*

With New York's Mayor Koch running for governor against the UN, the AP (via the *Baltimore Sun*) reported that the UN and the related diplomatic community brought the city about \$700 million a year in economic benefits while costing \$15 million in the more publicized lost taxes and police protection.

\* \* \*

How much time is devoted to news during local TV news programs? The *Dallas Morning News* surveyed local shows to the second. One channel had more ads and promos than news. Another's newstime more than doubled that for ads.

\* \* \*

The *Sunday Times*' (London) interview with Mrs. Danuta Walesa glimpsed her husband's life under detention. He's been forced to...exercise. Gaining too much weight: lunch is soup and a choice of three main courses. He listens to the BBC and Radio Free Europe. Reports of more austere treatment of Polish detainees find widespread airing in US media. When the Red Cross was allowed to visit Walesa the *New York Times*, but not the *Post*, ran a story. It was the first time a Communist country had allowed Red Cross representatives into its prisons.

\* \* \*

In October and November, 1981, the *Gazette* detailed the *Post*'s bias and deficiencies in reporting the air controllers' strike. It was a nostalgic task to compare *Post* and *Boston Globe* use of the same AP story: an independent task force reported on Federal Aviation Administration practices. There was little change in its management approach and morale at most levels was "poor." But *Post* readers didn't learn that among those working 19 years, almost 70% suffered from burn-out, or that complaints about FAA management were "almost identical" among those on strike and those who stayed.

\* \* \*

The April *Gazette* chided the *Post* for neglecting critics of the administration's "yellow rain" charges. Later an editorial raised similar issues. The evidence had "gaps and internal contradictions." The claim of a perfect fit between symptoms reported and those known to be caused by the mycotoxins was "simply incorrect" and the poison concentrations in the sample were too low to kill humans.

A brief, but informative interview with Julian Robinson, a top British expert on chemical-biological warfare, appeared in *The Sunday Times* (London). He found the chemical analysis of plant and blood brought back from Asia "quite inconclusive." He wanted better quality interviews with the refugees noting their reports told of a great variety of delivery systems, chemical agents (various colored gases, smoke, clouds), and ailments. He found it "quite deplorable" that the US would treat such a serious matter "in such a slapdash way."

\* \* \*

The *Post* is giving increased coverage, usually brief, to problems at nuclear plants. Yet, when the AP had a story on weak steam generator tubes in 40 plants resulting in higher operating costs and radiation exposure for plant workers, the *Post* passed. The *Boston Globe* and *Miami Herald* ran the wire copy supplemented with staff accounts of nearby plants. (The AP story was based on a Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff report.)

One day the *Post* had four nuclear stories. Compensation to two Canadian atomic workers for job-related cancer made page one. (Why were the stories on five different pages without cross-referencing?) Media stories on the safety of atomic workers is rare. The *Hartford Courant* did one on the 1000 or so who go all over to work on refueling and maintenance shutdowns. These specialists are but a part of the industry's temporary work force. About a third of the employees are temporaries, but they take half the radiation.

Two types of nuclear safety stories deserve more emulation: on the training of local nuclear plant operators (*Arkansas Gazette*), and on the practice of disaster procedures (*Courant*).

\* \* \*

March 20: A *Post* brief noted that Argentina will buy enriched uranium from the USSR. April 7: Same story on CBS, during the Malvinas (Falk-

lands) crisis. (Last year the London papers—*The Times* and *Financial Times*—reported that the US is a purchaser of Soviet uranium.)

\* \* \*

Dorothy Gilliam had an informative column on the District government's decision to turn over most mental health care to private contractors. But her first phrase seems to condemn the *Post* and local TV and radio news: "It hasn't been talked about much..."

\* \* \*

The *Baltimore Sun* was a week ahead of the *Post* on the Malvinas story. They reported on the incident on South Georgia Island when 60 Argentines; ostensibly there to collect scrap metal, raised their nation's flag.

A *Post* op-ed piece suggested the US and Britain can't conceive of Argentina having a "geopolitical vision, focused primarily" on enhancing its interests. Our leaders often fail to realize that non-European countries have different pictures of their national interest than we think they should. Our mideast policy is based on ignoring Arab and Israeli claims that the other is the main foe. In asking Argentina into Central America, the US may not realize its goals there may differ from, or be potentially harmful to, those of the US.

Argentine ambitions in the Antarctic were discussed on the *New York Times* op-ed page. An ad in the *Post*, giving the Argentine side of the Malvinas dispute, showed its Antarctic claims. "Malvinas" reminds us of the unquestioning bias of the media in using "Falklands." Julius Goebel's study of the legal and diplomatic history of the islands (Yale University Press, 1927) found Argentina's claim valid.

\* \* \*

For the first time since 1956 the US tested the command and communications system to be used in a nuclear war. The exercise had hundreds of Soviet missiles arriving on day four—somewhat earlier than we were told the Pentagon assumed for the purposes of evacuating the cities. Reportedly the simulation convinced Reagan and other top officials we could maintain continuity of government during a nuclear strike. The *Wall Street Journal* did the story, the *Boston Globe* reprinted it.

Frankly, the results surprised me. The wire services reported (*Miami Herald* yes, *Post* no) that two or three well-aimed nuclear blasts could knock out the whole US military command system. A few saboteurs could take out the satellite-based nuclear warning system by cutting command post-ground station cables. The source: "a senior defense official" who estimated he needed five years and \$20 billion to ensure top-level communications.

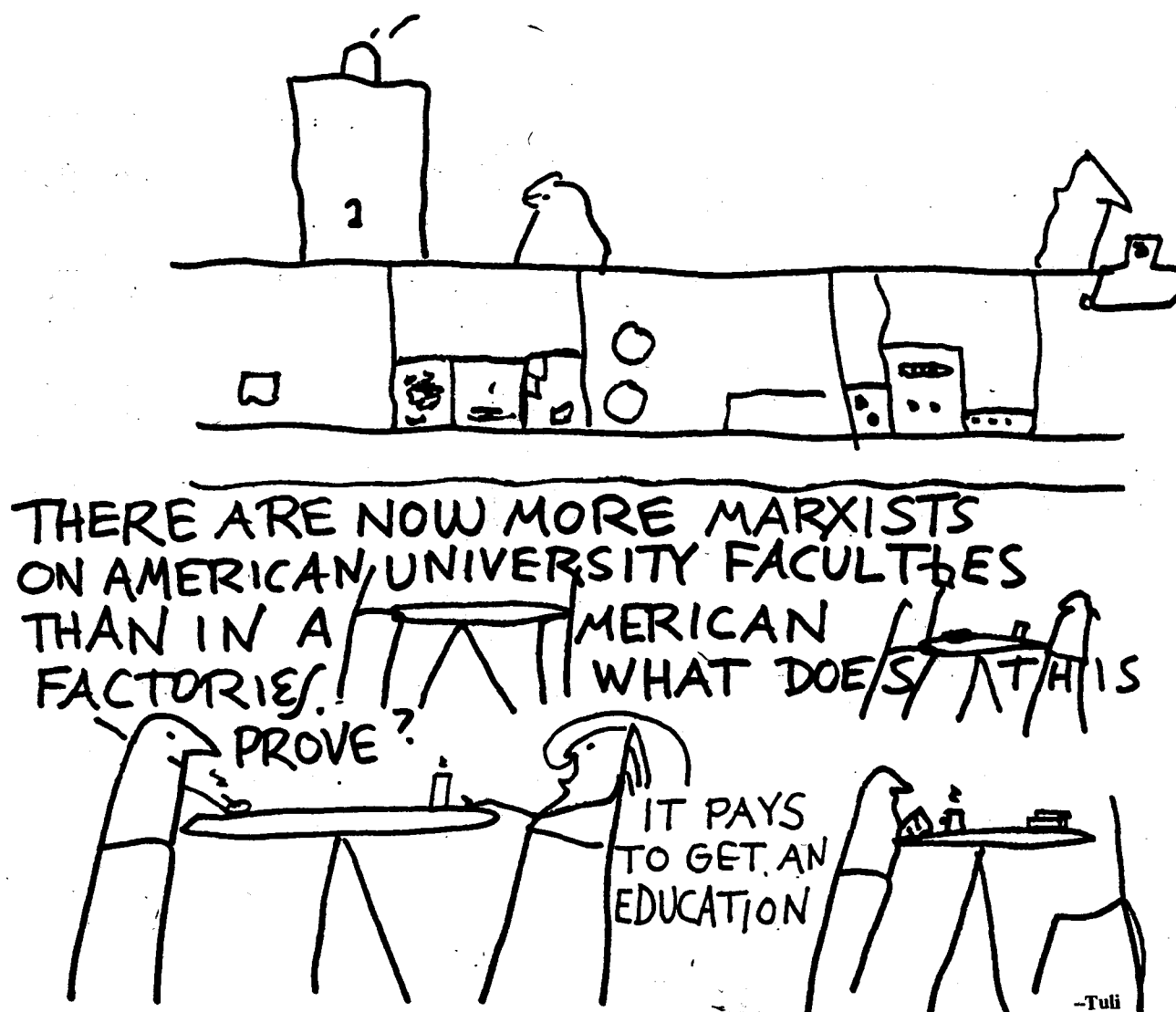
\* \* \*

The *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* ran a lengthy *New York Times*-supplied analysis of proposals of South African commissions on the press (see *Gazette* Mar. and Apr.) and on security laws. The *Post* covered the latter with an informative report. One proposed change it ignored: defendants under the Terrorism Act would no longer have to prove innocence beyond a reasonable doubt. Proof they were probably innocent would suffice. Neither report noted that the commission said no security law can remove the underlying cause of violence, which were socio-economic and constitutional.

Some South African stories not in the *Post* included: the easing of the ban on visits of high-ranking SA military officers on official business (*Times*); the bombing of the London offices of a major black nationalist apartheid foe; the African National Congress (*Miami Herald*); 57 blacks fasting for the 11th day in a Capetown Anglican cathedral asking for the right to live legally near Cape Town (*Atlantic City Press*); and a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee's report blasting the CIA for its part in an illegal arms deal with South Africa (*Boston Globe*). While the CIA took the harshest criticism for not enforcing, if not actively evading, the US embargo on arms sales to SA, State and Defense were also criticized.

\* \* \*

When the *Post* sports section used a UPI dispatch saying Vancouver coach Harry Neale's suspension was the first extending into the playoffs, it must have astonished history-wise hockey fans. In 1955 Montreal Canadiens' star Maurice Richard was suspended for the final three games of the regular season and the entire playoffs. Public response included: a blow to the face of the league president, a smoke bomb-ended game at the Forum, and rioting and looting that swept through a large area of downtown Montreal. Richard addressed the province urging calm.





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# CHARLES MCDOWELL

A theory about news: There can be only one big story at a time.

Oh, the evening news can show several, and the newspaper can deal prominently with a half-dozen on the front page. But one running story tends to displace the others in the consciousness of the public.

The public's reaction feeds the story. Soon the immediacy of television has created a sort of super-reality in which the big story of the moment involves everybody. The other events in the news seem dim and out of focus, even irrelevant.

Maybe this distorted super-reality is merely the reality of a world dominated by its ability to communicate. Isn't the medium the message?

A month ago I could not place the Falkland Islands by the right continent or even in the right ocean. Now I know their geography, their topography and their sheep. I know the British inhabitants as old friends. I know the names and armaments of the British ships at sea, and the strengths and vulnerabilities of the Argentine forces. Their biggest vulnerability is, of course, their aggressive dictator. His presence in this story—and in my living room, too well barbered, too arrogant—ensures my partisanship, which was already encouraged by Winston Churchill, the Union Jack and the British way with military anthems.

This truly is a big story. It has suspense, emotional tension, historical significance, contemporary importance and ABC News chartering a ship to carry its cameras into battle.

What is distorted is our sense of proportion. The Falkland Islands are in the foreground of the news. In the background, almost back to the vague zone where the earth curves away into clouds, is everything else.

Whatever happened to El Salvador?

I once knew the names and parties of the candidates in the election down there. It seems a long

time ago, and somehow it seems a dumb thing to have worried about as intensively as I did.

A few weeks ago, Nicaragua and Guatemala were major places in my life; their relationships to El Salvador and to my country's foreign policy seemed terribly important. Now Nicaragua and Guatemala are merging in my mind, and sometimes I say one when I mean the other. They are remote, gray distractions on the periphery of my world view.

My world view is concentrated, my values firm, my conscience almost clear. I'm a Falkland Islands man myself.

The news organizations can try to broaden our perspectives, and they do try. The other night on NBC, John Chancellor stood at a map with a pointer and showed us how Israel was preparing to invade Lebanon to get at the Palestinian guerrillas. CBS and ABC television, and public and commercial radio, and most of the newspaper explored the apparently likely invasion and dwelled at length on its possible consequences. Those consequences could be vast, of course, by all odds more important than the outcome of the Falkland

Islands, and the Middle East is just a shadow on the backdrop.

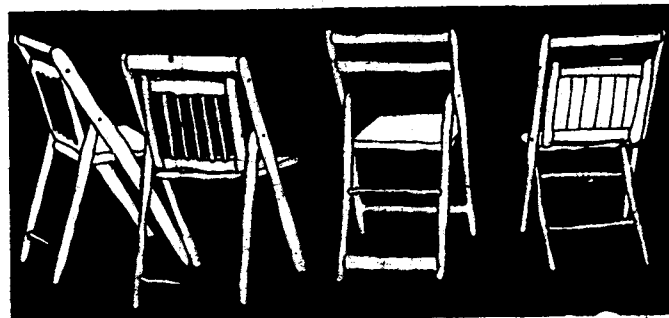
If television is the medium we are mainly talking about, we are inclined to say pat things like big news for television is news that can be told with action pictures. The problem is, that's wrong.

The Middle East has been full of action pictures for days now. The Falkland Islands story, except for some stirring pictures of the British fleet leaving port, has been dull pictures of British leaders at doorways after conferences, old film and a few contemporary talking heads in Argentina, Secretary of State Haig getting on and off airplanes.

No, there is more going on here than pictures. This is a phenomenon of instant communication, feedback, and personal involvement. And when we are involved so personally, we find it almost impossible to see the other stories, let alone to integrate them into a coherent view of what we call the news.

So what ever happened to the budget crisis, the movement for a nuclear freeze, the Caribbean Basin plan (whatever that was)? All will have their day again, of course. Meanwhile, did they ever open the baseball season or not?

[Richmond Times Dispatch]



Workbook/cpf

# CHUCK STONE

ATLANTA — Deep in this heart of Jimmy Carter country, the dinner speakers were bubbling over with comments about Republican Ronald Reagan.

The kind you might hear from a mongoose solicited for affectionate thoughts about a cobra.

"If Ronald Reagan does nothing else, he's going to bring black folks back together again," chortled Tuskegee's ebony-hued mayor, Johnny Ford.

"Reagan has been a blessing," began the gentle-mannered Coretta Scott King. Pause. "A negative blessing."

"WE'VE GOT ONE MORE RIVER to cross!" the Rev. Joseph F. Lowery exhorted the guests, transforming the dinner into a revival meeting. "After we cross the Potomac, we're going to stay there until the White House becomes the right house!"

At the dinner, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference was celebrating its silver anniversary while solemnly remembering its founder, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., on the date of his assassination.

Less than 25 years ago, several of the evening's honorees had integrated universities in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, accompanied by silent bayonets and screaming mobs.

AS THE HONOREES STEPPED forward proudly to receive awards from SCLC president Lowery, the applauding audience stepped gloomily back into time.

For them, a well-meaning president is turning civil rights gained into civil rights lost with his "aw shucks" geniality. "Oops! I didn't mean to let the rope slip like that."

To low-income white Americans, Reagan's intentions are equally honorable and the results just as devastating. "Golly, it bothers me no end when I eat on \$290,000 china and folks don't have \$2.90 to feed their families."

In less than two years, Reaganomics has uncovered new thresholds of misery:

- The latest record-setting 9 percent unemployment rate, which translates into 9.9 million people unable to find a job.

- 2 million current food stamps recipients to lose their eligibility with \$2.3 billion in cuts.

- 350,000 CETA job-trainees thrown out of work behind \$2 billion in cutbacks.

- The Women, Infants, Children (WIC) program of special food and care for babies and nursing mothers being reduced by \$333 million.

- Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) severely curtailed with a reduction of \$1.2 billion.

- Nutrition programs of school milk and summer meals to be abandoned altogether.

As larger numbers of people have lost their jobs, they have postponed major purchases such as a new car. The automobile industry, a lynchpin of the economy, has suffered one of its worst setbacks in years.

More than 200,000 automobile jobs may be lost forever as UAW president (Douglas) Fraser exercises a statesmanship in job-saving negotiations seemingly alien to USA president Reagan.

This Reaganomics-sponsored recession may have temporarily incapacitated white America with a head cold. But it has hospitalized black America with double pneumonia.

The current 18 percent black unemployment rate (twice the national average) has set a record.

ALTHOUGH ONLY 12 percent of the population, blacks comprise 30 percent of the nation's poor — families living below the poverty line.

In every major category of federal budget cuts described earlier, a disproportionate number of blacks have slipped through the safety net's gaping hole into a pit of despair.

That's only the result of Reaganomics.

In civil rights, the administration's reversals have caused similar hardships. Its back-of-the-bus mentality has been restored to a nostalgic pre-eminence.

The controversial tax-exemption for segregated schools was alibied as innocent inadvertence. Even if you buy the argument of a nest of White House political virgins, they still hatched one of the most rotten eggs in recent presidential history.

But the tax-exemption crisis is only Reagan's tip of a racist iceberg.

The administration is removing the constitutional remedy of busing as one option among many to achieve integration.

ACCORDING TO BLACK college presidents, projected cuts of \$2 billion in three major higher education programs — Guaranteed Student Loans, the College Work Study program and the Basic Educational Opportunity Grants — could reduce black college student enrollment by 25 to 50 percent.

In summation, the total of Reagan policies on both fronts — economics and civil rights — amount to a two-fold strategy: wage war on the poor and put blacks on the racks.

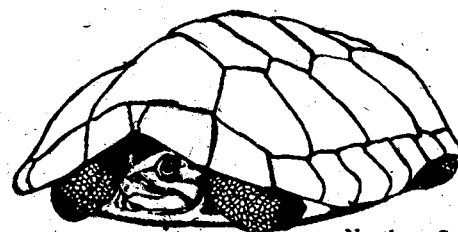
No general, no president, no king has ever won a two-front war.

Lacking the genius of a long line of superior intellects, an amiable Reagan can't avoid the clutches of historical inevitability.

Retirement in 1984 will comfort him as much as it will relieve a troubled nation.

And like the Rev. Lowery said, "the White House will become the right house."

[Philadelphia Daily News]



Northern Sun/cpf



# LIFE & RELATED SUBJECTS

Every so often I see a news article in which some educator gets all wrought up about the fact that people don't read books any more:

"WASHINGTON (Associated Press)—Noted educator Dr. Belinda A. Burgeon-Wainscot, speaking before the American Association of People Who Use the Title 'Doctor' Even Though They Are Not Physicians, But Merely Graduate-School Graduates, Which Are As Common These Days as Milkweed Pollen (AAP-WUTDETTANPBMGSGWAACTDAMP), said today that people don't read books any more. At least that's what we here at the Associated Press think she said. She spoke for about two hours, and used an awful lot of big words, and frankly we dozed off from time to time."

Well, I am not a noted educator, but I know why most of us don't read books. We don't read books because, from the very beginning of our school careers, noted educators have made us read books that are either boring or stupid, and often both. Here's what I had to read in first grade:

"Look Jane," said Dick. "Look Look Look Look."

"Oh," said Jane. "Oh. Oh Oh Oh Oh Oh. Look."

"Oh," said Spot. "Oh my God."

Now I'm not claiming that we first-graders were a bunch of geniuses, but we didn't spend the bulk of the day saying "look," either. We thought Dick and Jane were a drag, so many of us turned to comic books, which were much more interesting and informative. When I was in first grade, the Korean War was going on, so I read comic books with names like "GI Combat Death Killers," featuring American soldiers with chin stubble who fought enemy communist orientals with skin the color of school buses. These comic books had lots of new and exciting words:

"Commie attack! Hit the dirt!"

BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA

"Grenade! Grenade!"

WHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOMKABOOOOOOOM

"Joe! They got Joe! Eat lead, you reds!"

BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA

"Aieeeeeeeeeeee."

And so on. This is how we developed our language skills. If we had stuck with Dick and Jane, we'd have sounded like morons.

After the first grade, our school books got longer, but they did not get more interesting. The history books were the worst. Take, for example, the Civil War. I think we can safely assume that the Civil War was fairly lively, but you would never know this from reading elementary-school history books:

## THE CIVIL WAR

"The Civil War was very serious. It was caused by slavery and states' rights, and it resulted in the Gettysburg Address."

"Discussion Questions: How serious was the Civil War? Would you feel nervous if you had to give the Gettysburg Address? Explain."

\*\*\*

The other big problem with history textbooks was that they always started at the Dawn of Civilization and ended around 1948. So we'd spend the first three months of each school year reading about the ancient Sumerians at a leisurely pace. Then the teacher would realize that time was running short, and we'd race through the rest of history, covering World War II in a matter of minutes, and getting to Harry Truman on the last day. Then the next year, we'd go back to the ancient Sumerians. After a few years of this, we began to see history as an endlessly repeating, incredibly dull cycle, starting with Sumerians and leading inexorably to Harry Truman, then going back again. No wonder so many of us turned to loud music and drugs.

Things were a little better in English class, because we didn't have to read the same books over and over. On the other hand, we had to read a lot of books nobody

would want to read even once, such as "The Last of the Mohicans," which was written by James Fenimore Cooper, although I seriously doubt that Cooper himself read it. We also read a batch of plays by Shakespeare, which are very entertaining when you watch actors perform them, but are almost impossible to understand when you read them:

FLAVORUS: Forsooth 'twixt consequence doest thou engage?

Woudst thou thine bodkin under thee enrage?

HORACLES: In faith I woudst not e'er intent fulfill, For o'er petards a dullard's loath to till.

(Shakespeare wrote this way because English was not his native language. He was Sumerian.)

\*\*\*

Anyway, that's why I think people don't read books any more. The sad thing is that there are many fine books around, just waiting to be read. You can see them on convenient display racks at any of the better supermarkets; they have titles like "The Goodyear Blimp Diet" and "Evil Nazi War Criminals Get an Atomic Bomb and Threaten to Destroy Uruguay." These books are easy to read, and minutes after you read one you're ready for another. What we need is some kind of federal program to get people interested in them. Maybe the president could read some of them aloud on national television (he is very good at reading aloud). Or maybe we could give people an additional tax exemption for every book report they attach to their income-tax returns. Whatever we do, we should do it soon, to get people out of the habit of getting all their information from television and poorly-researched newspaper columns.

FEATURE ASSOCIATES

**Dave Barry**

# ARTHUR HOPPE

I banged on the door of my neighbor, Mr. Crannich, the other midnight. "Open up, Crannich!" I cried. "I know you're in there."

It took a minute or so, but Crannich finally appeared, pulling his bathrobe over his pajamas. "What on earth do you want at this hour?" he demanded irritably.

"I heard you lost your job," I said.

"What business is that of yours?"

"Our president says that 'the helping hand of neighbor to neighbor' is far superior to any bureaucratic government welfare program that he may have killed. So I've come to offer you my helping hand."

Crannich's whole demeanor changed. "Golly, that's wonderful," he said, opening the door wide to let me in. "It's neighbors like you in time of need that make the whole world seem a better place."

"Thank you," I said, taking a look around. "Let me see your bank book."

"Bank book?" said Crannich, frowning. "Why do you want to see my bank book?"

"Well, I'm certainly not going to pay you unemployment benefits, Crannich," I said, "if you've got a bundle stashed away. And let's have a look-see in your garbage can while we're at it."

"Whatever for?"

"Bones," I said. "I distinctly detected the odor of poaching salmon earlier this evening. I know all about you welfare cheats buying fresh salmon steaks with your food stamps."

"I don't get food stamps and I haven't had a paycheck in two weeks."

I nodded. "I can see you're not slyly moonlighting," I said, "which is the reason I'll be dropping by like this at random times of night while you're on my dole. Now, then, if I can just take a peek in your refrigerator...Ahah! A bottle of imported beer!"

"It was a gift."

"A likely story," I whipped out a pad and pencil. "I'm afraid you'll have to answer this list of 73 questions. First, are you now or have you ever been an unwed mother?"

"Look here, damn it!"

"Decline to state, eh? That's two points against you. But I don't want to pry into your personal life. Tell me, how often do you have sex?"

"Why do you want to know that?" he asked, turning red.

"Because the time you spend in idle dalliance is time you could spend hunting for a job," I explained patiently. "And I certainly don't want you dallying around on my money."

"Talk about snoops!" said Crannich indignantly. "You've got those government social workers beat all hollow."

"Good grief, Crannich," I said, "what did you expect? A government bureaucrat may not give a fig what happens to the taxpayers' dough. But we

in the private sector really care where our hard-earned money goes."

Crannich hung his head. "Yes," he said. "I can understand that. But, oh, the shame of having to live off the private sector."

"Cheer up, Crannich," I said. "What are neighbors for? Here's a sawbuck to tide you over till a week from next Tuesday."

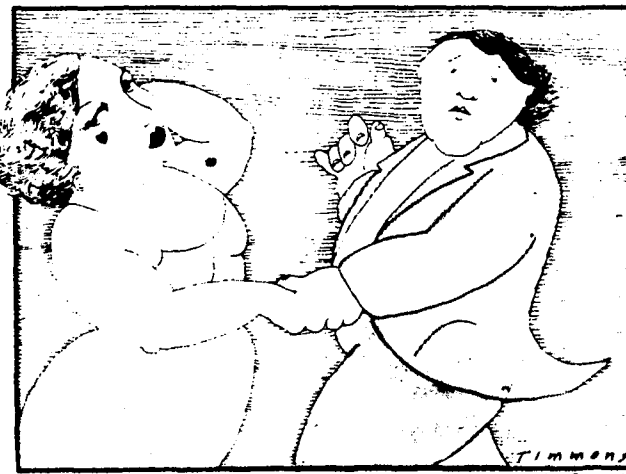
"A lousy sawbuck?"

"I might add that mine is a Work-fare Program in order to prevent you welfare bums from loafing on our private sector generosity," I said. "So I'll expect you over at 7 a.m. to begin scrubbing the scum out of our fish pond."

I won't go into what happened after that. If you see President Reagan, though, please tell him he might reconsider replacing government aid with neighbor-to-neighbor helping hands.

I'd write him myself. But I've got a broken arm.

(Copyright Chronicle Publishing Co. 1982)



# AMERICAN JOURNAL

As the White House war machine shifts into overdrive in Central America and elsewhere, a still-small but growing number of political activists are stepping up their efforts to step on the brakes. Pacifists, feminists and leftists, politicians and clergy, celebrities and unknowns, they comprise a broadly based, informal network—a movement in embryo. Together, with their varying priorities and degrees of commitment, they represent humanity's last, best hope to stop the machine from flattening us all.

Herewith is a sampler of today's leading activists—counterforces to the rogues' gallery of military Machiavellis and duplicitous diplomats at the controls.

**CISPES** (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador). CISPES describes itself as "a national organization of solidarity, religious and human rights groups opposed to U.S. intervention in El Salvador." The organization leads protests demonstrations, provides humanitarian aid to Salvadoran rebels and revolutionaries and works to educate Americans about the nature of the war in that country. Most recently, this estimable, year-and-a-half-old organization coordinated nationwide protests against the stage-managed elections in El Salvador. CISPES has 300 local chapters and seven regional offices. their national office can be reached at: P.O. Box 12056, Washington, D.C. 20005, telephone (202) 887-5019.

**U.S. church groups offering sanctuary to Salvadoran refugees** in this country. On the second anniversary of the assassination of liberal Archbishop Oscar Romero by a rightwing death squad, some 100 American churches announced they would provide sanctuary to Salvadorans here who face torture and death if they are deported to their homeland. The interfaith network cannot wasvent the arrest of Salvadorans by U.S. authorities, but it does hope to "dramatize the inhumane policies of the U.S. government."

**Ed Asner.** TV's "Lou Grant" recently helped form Medical Aid for El Salvador, a private, non-profit organization that hopes to raise \$1 million

in medical aid for people in rebel-controlled territory. Explaining that previous medical shipments were seized by the ruling junta, the new group plans to funnel funds through a group of exiled Salvadoran physicians in Mexico City. Asner has taken a lot of heat for this from the likes of that old centurion Charlton Heston, but he's been hanging tough.

**Costa-Gravas.** The Greek-born, Paris-based filmmaker has turned out another taut and timely political thriller based on the true story of the murder of U.S. journalist Charles Horman during the Chilean coup of 1973. *Missing*, starring Jack Lemmon and Sissy Spacek, points a finger of complicity directly at U.S. diplomats, who stalled Horman's real-life father and wife for weeks with excuses and assurances that Charles was OK. When *Missing* was released Feb. 12, the State Dept. took the unusual step of denying everything in a three page letter, but the denial wasn't terribly convincing.

**Draft registration resisters.** Half a million young men, says the government, over a million according to activists, have refused to register for the military draft. After Reagan reversed his anti-draft stand in January, administration officials said resisters would be prosecuted for a felony. Resisters are hoping to close ranks to make a mass prosecution unlikely—and an extended land war

using U.S. draftees impossible. Further information is available from: Draft Counseling, RECON publications, P.O. Box 10602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

**Dr. Helen Caldicott.** Head of Physicians for Social Responsibility and co-founder of the Women's Party for Survival, Caldicott gave up her pediatric practice at Harvard to stump the country, warning of the impossibility of winning—or even surviving—a nuclear war. PSR's success in focusing public attention on the realities of the nuclear nightmare has done much to rouse the peace movement here to join the already-large opposition to the arms race in Europe.

**Nuclear Freeze Initiative.** Backers of this grassroots effort to pressure the U.S. and the Soviet Union to freeze their development of nuclear weapons also understand that war in any part of the world has the potential to become global and nuclear. According to recent press reports, 12 state legislatures have passed or are considering nuclear freeze resolutions, and 17 senators and 122 representatives are sponsoring freeze resolutions in Congress. Nuclear freeze supporters also say they'll be out in force in New York this June 12 to demonstrate their concern at the United Nations conference on international disarmament.

If there were Congressional Medals of Honor for valor in the defense of social justice and peace, these people would surely be among the winners.

**By David Armstrong**



Workshop/cpf

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# NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

## New street signs

New, larger and easier-to-read street signs will be installed throughout the District. Installation began last month in the downtown area.

The new signs have a highly reflective background material which will improve their visibility for pedestrians and motorists. They are about six inches longer than the current signs and include the street block number as well as the street name.

Some 200 signs a week will be installed in downtown intersections, the first area where replacement will take place. 1,130 signs at downtown intersections are scheduled for replacement.

DOT also will replace missing neighborhood signs on an interim basis this summer. Longer-term plans to put new street signs in all neighborhood intersections will begin in Southeast later this summer. If funding to complete the project is approved for fiscal year 1983, all intersections will have the signs by Christmas.

The cost of each sign, including installation, is about \$70. The new high intensity sign material is three times as bright and has at least twice the six-year life of current signs at only a slightly higher cost.

## Ward One

Nancy Shia of the Adams Morgan Neighborhood Commission is running as a Republican for the Ward One city council seat now held by Dave Clarke. .... Marie Nahikian and Frank Smith will be running as Democrats for the seat. .... The Mount Pleasant Neighborhood Commission has voted to approve the expansion of the Stoddard Baptist Home on Newton Street. The commission asked that the home consult the community on various aspects of design, including the problem of traffic and parking.

Galeria Inti, located at 1740 Irving St., NW, has an exhibition of photographs by Fernando Lopez Guerra. This young photographer began to work seriously in the medium after leaving his homeland, Argentina, in 1976. The selection he has chosen shows his development from 1978 through 1980 when he was residing in France.

During his stay in Washington Lopez Guerra has provided photographs for Channel 11 television of Mexico and the National Spanish News Network. He has also contributed to numerous newspapers and magazines in Europe.

The exhibit remains on view until May 28th. Hours are Thursday and Friday, 12 to 5, Saturday, 2 to 6, and by appointment.

## Adams Morgan

GEORGE FRAIN

Mayor Barry and his housing chief, Robert Moore want to buy the Imperial apartment building at 1763 Columbia Road and convert it to public housing for large families. This plan would displace the existing families, many of whom are elderly, and many of whom are latinos. It would subject the smaller children in public housing families to the traffic dangers on Columbia Road, one of the heaviest travelled commercial streets in the city. Such small children could be killed, in a traffic accident, and everyone would be so sorry it happened. Mayor Barry lives in a quiet residential street where his son, 21-month-old Marion Christopher, can have access to a safe yard with green grass to play in, and also have flowers, trees, and shrubbery. None of this would be available to children at the Imperial. There are 37 units in the

Imperial. Under the Barry-Moore plan these public housing families with many children would have to send their children several blocks to the Marie Reed elementary school playground, and to the Shapiro tract. At the Imperial, the parents would have to guard their smaller children constantly and be with them all the time to keep them safe—and even with these precautions some would get hurt, and some would be killed.

Near the Imperial are Giant and Safeway with the enormous traffic they invite serving neighborhood customers. In addition, there are a great many cafes, and other stores. There is more traffic on Columbia Road than on any downtown street such as F, G, H, and E streets, NW between 7th and 14th streets; there is more traffic than there is on 7th Street. It is most thoughtless and uncaring for top District officials to put public housing families into the Imperial with all of its perils, the exhaust fumes, the noise, the real traffic dangers, and the lack of suitable playground space with green grass, flowers, trees, and shrubs.

It is clear that Mayor Barry, and housing chief Moore wouldn't put their own families in the Imperial if it were rehabilitated with gold faucets and hot and cold running champagne.

It is clear that Mayor Barry and housing chief Moore are planning to put latino families in the Imperial in answer to their critics who have said they have done nothing to provide jobs or housing for latinos in the Adams/Morgan area where so many of them live. The Barry-Moore plan will backfire, because the latino families won't want to subject their children to the hazards of life in a heavy commercial area with no playgrounds or green grass. The latino parents want the best for their children and it is clear that the Imperial is not "the best," it isn't even second best, it is down the line about 50th in any field of selections.

It is clear the Imperial is far inferior to the many new apartment buildings constructed, with the help of federal funds, by Barry and Moore on 14th Street, 7th Street, and in other parts of the city. The overwhelming majority of the tenants in these new apartment buildings are black.

Critics have pointed out that all Mayor Barry and his housing chief Robert Moore have done to

date is to talk about housing for the latino families.

The Washington Post (March 31) reported that the Eighteenth and Columbia Road Business Association suggested that the present tenants in the Imperial not be displaced for public housing, but that they be kept in the top two floors of the building. This plan calls for subsidies to help the existing tenants, the subsidies to be generated by immediate commercial development of the basement and the first two floors in accordance with existing zoning.

The U.S. Supreme Court has held on a number of occasions that local zoning must be supported. It is unlikely that the Reagan administration will approve the use of federal housing funds to (1) subvert local zoning, and (2) to put public housing families in such inferior housing as the Imperial. If the Reagan administration did approve the Imperial for public housing use it would be bitterly attacked as "uncaring for the poor, the weak, and the helpless." These are the very people who must be protected, especially from eager politicians who want victory at the polls more than they want good housing for public housing people.

George Frain is secretary of the 18th & Columbia Rd. Business Assn.

## Ward Eight

D.C. Human Services Director James Buford and Health Commissioner Dr. Arthur Hoyte have announced a new cooperative health effort, designed to reduce infant mortality and improve health care for children east of the Anacostia River.

The program is designed to reach those who currently are not receiving adequate medical care, especially those in high risk groups. It will provide a wide range of services at three sites. It also will provide cross-referrals so that any participant reached by DHS or other participating agencies will be referred for all related services they need.

The program is a cooperative effort of DHS,

## UDC Cont'd. . .

ment to the presidency of this institution on the basis of such a vote is unconscionable, indefensible and irresponsible. In the face of such division, the only responsible action was not to act, but to seek further. Sadly, there is much suspicion that the decision was the result of fatigued frustration rather than diligent deliberation. I fear that the concern that the search had gone on too long created a need for closure which superceded the need for consensus. I believe the priorities were wrong.

We need consensus. We have struggled through the consolidation to achieve some sense of cohesion and common purpose. We need a leader who can inspire and enhance that sense. I am dismayed that the Board would be willing to make an appointment which may prove to be divisive rather than unifying. It is especially dismaying when you think that those of us who had the least part in the decision are the ones who will have to live with the results. The faculty and the students are the crucial components of the institution—they are the ones engaged directly in the teaching/learning mission of this university. All others are here to support that mission, including the Board of Trustees. In some sense, we are all transients, and the university is an institution with a life of its own. Still, some of us are more transient than others, and it seems terribly important to recognize the faculty contribution to the stability of the university.

I have been part of this institution and one of its predecessors for fourteen years. I have

helped build a department from the ground up, and I have helped to consolidate three departments into one. I believe deeply in this university and have been a consistently active participant in its development. Many of my colleagues share this history, having made a profound personal and professional commitment to public higher education in the District of Columbia. These are the individuals who have really created the university, and they are the ones who will continue to do so. I have seen many Trustees come and go, and some of us will be encountering our sixth president. Isn't it a contradiction that those with the greatest involvement have the least power? I think it is a contradiction which we should not tolerate.

One more thing. I resent the characterization of the Board's appointee as a "no-nonsense" educator, as if we at the university have been about nonsense education. I would remind us all that UDC is a fully-accredited institution, and I am proud of what we have accomplished. There is none among us, I am sure, who does not see areas which need improvement and who does not feel that we have just begun to achieve our full possibility. But how much more we can achieve if the atmosphere is inspirational rather than punitive. Terms like "no-nonsense" educator seem to me to be ambiguous and misleading, serving as code words like "law and order". We are ready to move this institution forward, but not if we are burdened with divisiveness and suspicion.

From the UDC Faculty Senate Perspective

## BZA CASES

Here are some of the more interesting cases currently before the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

ANC 3C, 1300 35th St. NW. Hirokwa Oikawa, wants a variance to use the first floor for mending and sewing "curtains, slipcovers and other fabric items."

ANC 5A, 900 Varnum NE. DC Assh. for Retarded Citizens wants permission for a private school with parking spaces.

ANC 6C, 2425 25th St. SE. Permission being sought for construction of a 300 bed health-care facility.

ANC 2A, 801 NH Ave. NW. Guest Quarters Inc. wants to operate a delicatessen in its apartment house.

ANC 2B, 1330 NH Ave. NW. Solomon Colker is appealing the decision of the Chief of the Zoning Review Branch who said that the use of an office for an "accountant, financial analyst and economist" does not constitute an officer of a professional person in an SP-2 zone.

ANC 2D, 36 N SE. Dennis Sobin, publisher of Met Forum and candidate for mayor, wants to appeal a zoning decision denying two applications for sexually-oriented business establishments.

ANC 4B, Georgia Avenue between Geranium and Hemlock. Permission being sought to permit a McDonald's restaurant to construct a wooden fence in lieu of a masonry wall, and to permit construction of a driveway serving a drive-thru window and menu board.

ANC 6B, 1101 East Capitol St. Robert Staton wants to change the use from automatic laundry to general office use.

ANC 2B, 1701 20th St. NW. Four Ways Inc. wants to extend a non-conforming restaurant to the second floor and to continue an outdoor cafe.

Hadley Hospital and the East of the River Health Association. It will be operated from the hospital and from two ERHA locations.

The effort will target women, children and adolescents, especially those who are high-risk because of certain health conditions, those who presently have no regular medical program, or women seeking abortion counseling and referrals. It also will seek to involve fathers in family planning and pre-natal and post-natal care.

Services will be provided in the following locations:

Hadley Family Health Services  
4601 Martin Luther King Avenue, S.W.  
547-5730

East of the River Health Association  
Main Site  
5929 East Capitol Street, S.E.  
582-7700

East of the River Health Association  
Satellite Site  
2725 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.  
581-2667

In a closely contested election, the Garfield-Douglass Heights Neighborhood Commission has chosen Mary F. Ross as chair. The first attempt to choose a chair resulted in a tie vote. At least one member plans to protest the election saying it was not properly advertised and conducted.

## Ward Two

The Foggy Bottom Neighborhood Commission has asked the Department of Transportation to study how the proposed expansion of the Kennedy Center will affect community traffic. The commission is looking for a new commissioner following the resignation of Jon Nowick who is moving overseas. The district he represented is between K and N, Rock Creek and 22nd. Info: 659-0011. William B. Willard and associates have applied to the Zoning

Commission to upzone a parking lot on Que Street between 16th and 17th from residential use with a maximum height of sixty feet to medium density commercial and residential use with a maximum height of sixty-five feet. The case is 82-3. The Shaw-Logan Circle Neighborhood Commission has come out in favor of no-fault auto insurance. The Woodrow Wilson House shows poster art from WWI through the end of this month. The DC government has extended the deadline for those who want to rent the space under Dupont Circle to submit proposals. The deadline was extended to permit some of the 50 groups that inquired to arrange financing. The new deadline for plans for the old streetcar tunnels is May 27. The First Baptist Church of Georgetown celebrates its 120 birthday this fall. The first congregation met in a small building known as "The Ark" on land donated by Collin Williams. It moved to its present location at 27th & Dumbarton NW where the cornerstone of the current building was laid in 1882. It has had nine pastors since its founding. Tip to John Wilson: check out the Georgetown fire house. Someone who did, reports, "I've seen a lot better slums."

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D, which serves near Southwest and Southeast, meets regularly on the first Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m. Members of the community are invited to attend.

For information on meeting locations call the ANC Office at 554-1795. Anyone having a concern or problem that the ANC should know about should contact the ANC Office 24 hours before the meeting to be placed on the agenda.

The Georgetown Trolley is a free service operated by the Business and Professional Association of Georgetown, a non-profit organization. The trolley runs on a thirty minute loop between Rosslyn and Georgetown, Tuesday through Saturday. Along its route, the trolley stops at the Rosslyn Metrorail Station, the Key Bridge Marriott, Wisconsin and M Streets and the Four Seasons Hotel between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Recently, the Washington Metro system added the Georgetown Jitney as an extension of its regular routes. Operating on a fifteen minute loop, the Jitney travels from the Kennedy Center and Foggy Bottom Metrorail Station, along K Street to the Safeway on Wisconsin Avenue. The service runs from 6:45 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday and from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday. It costs only \$.50 a ride and all valid Metro transfers are honored.

Because of its connection with the Foggy Bottom Metrorail Station, the Jitney is helpful to commuters to and from Georgetown, as well as to employees in the Northwest area who wish to shop or dine in Georgetown. Furthermore, theatergoers can use it when visiting the Kennedy Center.

All housing units covered by the rent control law are subject to an 8.9% increase as of May 1. In order to get the increase, the landlord must meet the following conditions:

The tenants must have in hand a 30-day notice of such increase. The property must be in substantial compliance with the housing code. A year must have lapsed since the last general increase. This means if a tenant received an increase on June 1, 1981, June, not May has to be the anniversary of the increase. Lastly, the general increase cannot go forward if any other increase has been given in the last six months.

If you wish to appeal your real estate assessment, call Ms. Shirley Perkins in the Board of Equalization & Review at 727-6860.

While full ANC funding of \$1,680,000 was proposed by the Mayor and City Council for Fiscal Year 1982, final congressional action allocated \$934,700 of that amount.

The sum is divided among the ANCs in accordance with their populations. ANC 2B with its 13,000 residents is entitled to 2.04% of the monies or \$19,067.88. The Dupont Circle community has suffered a population loss of almost 5000 persons since 1970.

Zoning inspector Steve McCarthy, upon receiving complaints from the ANC, has acknowledged that offices at 1764, 1766, and 1700 Church Street have no certificate of occupancy on file and are probably in violation of the zoning regulations. With few exceptions the regulations prohibit office use in residential zones.

## Ward Seven

This year's chair of the Minnesota-Benning Neighborhood Commission is James Parks. Work begins this month on an 18-month rehabilitation of the westbound Benning Road bridge over the railroad tracks and Kenilworth Avenue. Westbound traffic will be detoured except for morning rush hour. Eastbound traffic will continue to use the east-bound bridge but will be detoured during morning rush. For information on the new east of the river health center, see the Ward Eight report in this issue.

DON'T FORGET  
TO SEND US  
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



## Ward Four

South Manor Neighborhood Association recently elected officers for 1982. Elected to office were: LeRoy Edwards, president; David Owens, vice-president; Alice Gatewood, treasurer; Adolph Edwards, recording secretary; and Inez Elliott, corresponding secretary.

SMNA is currently holding its annual membership drive. Present members are asked to renew their membership, and new members are particularly welcomed. For more information, call LeRoy Edwards at 726-9423.

Capital City Savings & Loan plans to construct a five-story office building at 312 Cedar St. NW, a vacant lot across from the Takoma Metro Station. Because it is in the Takoma historic district, plans for the building must be approved by the DC Joint Committee on Landmarks.

Terry Dammann, historic preservation chair for Plan Takoma, presented the plans at a community meeting. She noted that her committee and other local residents met with the vice president of Capital City and his architect last year to discuss plans for the building. A number of suggestions were made, which were apparently adopted.

"The building would be within the zoning limits," Terry pointed out. "Our concern is mainly with design. This could be a 'gateway' building for the area, one that could set the standard for other development. We welcome the jobs and vitality it could bring, but it's also important that it be done well."

Terry presented the community's views at a meeting of the Joint Committee. No final decision was made, although the Committee seemed favorable to the plans. For further information, call Terry at 722-0127.

A new organization has been formed to fight crime in Ward 4 on a community-wide basis. Called "Community United for Excellence," the organization was formed through the efforts of Juanita Thornton, a resident of Shepherd Park and long-time Ward 4 activist.

Juanita, chairperson of the D.C. Commission on Aging, understands that while crime particularly plagues our elders (of which there are nearly 17,000 in Ward 4), all of us are affected by it and are responsible for doing something about it.

Using her remarkable powers of persuasion, Juanita put together a group of community leaders, including educators and parents, police officials, civic associations, churches, businesses etc. to come up with a plan of action to combat crime.

Progressive Neighbors civic association held a meeting on March 17 to outline strategies to combat the growing problem of drug use in the area of Kennedy St. NW.

Over a hundred concerned citizens, police officials, representatives from neighboring citizens associations attended, along with City Council member Charlene Drew Jarvis and local activist Norman Neverson. Testimony from various community residents underlined the growing gravity of the drug problem in the Kennedy Street area.

Neighbors Inc. will host a street fair, "Neighbors Day," on Sat., May 22, 1-5 pm, on Cedar St. NW, between 5th & 6th Sts NW. There will be crafts, refreshments, a bake sale & rummage sale, activities for children, information on community activities and much more.

After several months of planning and many community meetings, the D.C. Department of Transportation is proposing several new ways to control traffic in the Takoma neighborhood.

The proposals are:

- Restoring rush-hour parking on 5th St. and on Piney Branch Rd. NW;

- Providing a diverter at the intersection of 5th and Dahlia Streets and Blair Rd NW which will preclude traffic to and from Blair Rd. at this location;

- Making Dahlia St. one-way west for the one block from 8th St. to Georgia Ave, and making 8th St. one-way north from Hemlock to Juniper and one-way south from Highland to Butternut;

- Blocking Cedar St. at Piney Branch and making 4th St. one-way south from Cedar St. to Butternut.

At a meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B, the second item, closing 5th St. at Blair Road, was the subject of much discussion and the Commission subsequently voted to oppose it. Several residents of Takoma, however, wrote to D.C. officials expressing their support, including Rita Marshall, who noted that closing 5th St. would cause only a minor inconvenience for local residents but significantly increase safety for neighborhood children.

Tony Giancola noted the benefits of the closure, including reduction of traffic accidents and speeding cars, less traffic in front of schools, no problem for fire department or other safety vehicles and increased parking for residents. He emphasized the need to make Georgia Ave. more efficient through synchronization of traffic lights, and noted that this "would go a long way in moving commuter traffic downtown and in keeping it off all our neighborhood streets." Takoma Transportation meetings are held every 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30 pm, Trinity Church. Area residents are urged to attend.

### THE WHISTLE STOP CASE. . . .

On March 18, the Washington Post printed a lengthy article on the Whistle Stop bar and the community's activities and concerns relating to its liquor license.

The author said the "heart" of the issue is who determines "what is appropriate for a neighborhood and how much say community groups should have in the operation of private businesses." The author also said, "By most accounts, what closed the Whistle Stop was the neighbors' contempt for the former bar's 'rural Maryland' patrons."

Many residents contacted Neighbors Inc. to express alarm over what they felt was an unfair portrayal of the neighborhood. Excerpts from one of the letters appear below:

To the Post:

We want to express our deep concern about the article concerning our neighborhood's activities regarding the Whistle Stop bar.

We believe the article was misleading and lacked objectivity. . . . Indeed, the elitist, exclusionary Takoma portrayed in the article simply does not exist. Ours is a diverse, egalitarian community where integration in all its forms (economic as well as racial) is a highly valued reality. We would be the last to oppose a bar simply because it attracted people from Maryland.

The author stated that the neighborhood organization, Plan Takoma, "contended" that the owner violated building codes and ABC regulations. The author was told of the violations but did not investigate or report them. That the violations occurred is a matter of public record and easily verifiable.

Under various District laws and regulations, community residents, organizations and advisory neighborhood commissions have both the right and the attendant responsibility to express their concerns to official decision-making bodies, such as the Zoning Commission, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, etc. Obviously, our role is not to "dictate" to property owners, but rather to communicate concerns about the public health, safety and welfare.

Our usual practice is to meet with potential developers as early as possible to discuss any problems and find mutually satisfactory solutions. That we were unsuccessful in our efforts regarding the Whistle Stop was regrettable.

What was even more regrettable is that the Post, in reporting this issue to the rest of the city, did not fairly present our intentions and did not adequately explain all of the facts.

Takoma's side of the story has yet to be fully and accurately told. We hope that at some point you will be willing to do so.

Loretta Neumann  
President  
Neighbors Inc.

Randall McCathren  
President  
Plan Takoma

Gloria Johnson  
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner  
4B02

The Brightwood-Crestwood Neighborhood Commission has elected Phyllis Young as chair for this year. . . . The Petworth Neighborhood Commission has moved to 717 Kennedy St. NW.

Thanks to Neighbors Inc. for providing most of the Ward Four news this issue.

## Ward Six

The Capitol Hill-Near SE Neighborhood Commission is reviewing a plan for improving the landscaping at the Ellen Wilson Homes that has been drawn up by the housing department. The commission has also expressed concern about trash pile-ups behind the Market Place mini-mall on Pennsylvania Ave. SE. . . . The Eastern High School Band took part in a band festival in Florida this spring and walked off with several trophies including second place in field show competition and second runner-up in jazz band competition. . . . The Ward Six Education Watch supported the school superintendent's plan for closing under-used schools, calling it "a sound basis for beginning to deal with the problem."

## Ward Three

Michael Durso is the new principal of Wilson High. He comes to the school from Lincoln Junior High where he was also principal. Prior to that he had been assistant principal at Wilson. . . . That Citgo gas station at Tenley Circle is trying to get a liquor license from the ABC. Neighborhood groups have come out in opposition to the request, which would permit sales of wine and beer at the location.

Fillmore Arts Center won a reprieve last month as the school board decided not to go ahead with the superintendent's plans to close 14 school buildings, Fillmore among them. Fillmore recently got an award from the Rockefeller Brothers fund for excellence in arts education. Said Ward III school board member Wanda Washburn, "Wouldn't it be funny to have David Rockefeller show up in Washington to present an award to a school that has been closed?" . . . Chain Bridge reconstruction has progressed to the point that the upstream half of the bridge is



almost completed. Traffic is now being switched. The road segment of Canal Road from Arizona Avenue to the GW Parkway will operate outbound at all times except morning rush hours on weekdays. The inbound hours will remain the same -- 530 am to 930 am on weekdays. One-way reversible conditions on the bridge itself will continue until the construction is complete, probably in October. .... Lois DeVecchio has declared on candidacy for the Republican nomination for the Ward III city council seat. She is a member of the Spring Valley Neighborhood Commission and vice chair of the local GOP committee. Says De Vecchio, "We need a change in the District Building after 15 years. For too long, we have been asked to pay the bills, but in return we have not received even normal city services." She listed key issues as crime, high taxes and assessments, poor streets and pot holes.

Congratulations to the Uptown Citizen for its expose of construction problems at the Friendship Post Office. Conditions are so bad that employees have been advised to be alert for any loud "cracking sound" and to get against a wall or outside. The UC says problems began appearing even as the building opened for business four years ago. The parking lot began sinking and had to be repaired, a huge crane fell through the employee parking lot and, later, a car rammed the building after jumping the curb. .... Cleveland Parker John S. Koch died last month of a lung ailment. He was a lawyer with Covington & Burling and was a director of Friends of Tregaron .... The Neighborhood Planning Council is still looking for local bands to perform at the Fort Reno summer concerts. Contact John Libby at 282-2187. .... Friends of the Cleveland Park Library, aided by a two-for-one matching grant from the National Home Library Foundation, has presented a check for \$3750 on the library's behalf to Hardy Franklin, DC public library director. The Friends celebrate their first anniversary this month.

"Tis Town, Yet Country Too: The Selling of Uniontown, Le Droit Park and Cleveland Park" is a Columbia Historical Society travelling exhibition now on display at the Cleveland Park Library through June 3. .... The city council passed a resolution honoring Ward Three resident Barbara O'Hara who in January saved a neighbor in an apartment house fire. O'Hara's building was overcome by smoke and fire. Hearing her neighbor cry for help, she obtained a key and found her neighbor lying on the floor just outside a burning bedroom. O'Hara immediately removed the neighbor to the safety of another apartment. .... Sibley Hospital is presenting a program for the community on June 9, 16 & 23 on stroke and hypertension. Call 537-4193 for details. .... The Ward III Democrats have published their first issue of a bimonthly journal. If you didn't get a copy and would like to, write the Ward III Democrats at 5804 Broad Branch Rd. NW, DC 20015.

#### NEWS FROM ANC 3E

The Commission voted 4-0 not to oppose the application of the Baptist Home/American University Campus Plan to use the premises at

3700 Nebraska Avenue N.W. for a university dormitory and adjunct health service.

The Commission voted 5-0 not to oppose the application of "TAMAKIN, Inc." to transfer the Class C liquor license from "IL NIDO" at 4712 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. The new restaurant will be called "YOSAKU" and will feature authentic Japanese cuisine.

The Commission voted 5-0 to oppose the continuation of the Reno Road traffic experiment as it now exists in favor of a more comprehensive plan which would show concern for the adjacent neighborhoods. In the past this ANC had consistently asked that the experiment be delayed until the Metrorail was operating into Maryland.

The Commission has asked the Department of Transportation to offer solutions to the problems of traffic diverted by the 46th Street speed bumps.

The Commission supported a proposal that bus service be provided linking our area with the Van Ness Metro Station until the Friendship Heights Station opens. The proposed service from Western and Wisconsin Avenues via Tenley Circle would enable residents to reach Van Ness station without transferring buses. To express your comments write Director of Bus Operations, WMATA, 600 5th St., N.W. Washington D.C. 20001 or John Drayson, D.C. Department of Transportation, 415 12th St., N.W., Washington D.C. 20004.

The Lisner-Louise Home, 5426 Western Avenue needs neighborhood volunteers to help on

an emergency basis. Call Ward Orem or Cindy King at 966-6567 if they might call upon you during a future emergency.

Paint your address on your Supercan. If you need an additional Supercan or have complaints about alley cleanings, call 727-4825. Ward 3 Metal Bulky Item Trash Collections are scheduled for May 10th through 14 at your usual point-of-collection.

The Metropolitan Police warn our area residents not to leave valuables visible in your automobiles. If you notice anyone tampering with a parked car telephone 282-0050 (or nights 282-0070).

The Neighborhood Watch Program is operating in much of our area. To organize your neighborhood (at least 4 square blocks) call Police Community Relations 282-0050. You will need a captain for each block and neighbors willing to watch for suspicious activity in the front, back and on either side of their own homes. The police will provide a crime information program and erect street signs warning intruders of this program.

Every resident is entitled to a free police security inspection of his home. The officer can engrave identification on your valuables and supply warning stickers for your windows. Call 282-0050.

The police, fire and ambulance officers ask us to remind you that they cannot find your home in an emergency unless you display easily visible house numbers at both your street and alley entrances.

## Keep Reno slow

It appears that much of the controversy over the Reno Road traffic reduction program is due to the failure of the Department of Transportation to deal with ancillary problems caused by the experiment. Although the department has known for some time that there has been an increase in side street traffic, it failed to take corrective action, thus increasing opposition to the Reno Road program. Most observers think the failure was the result of inertia rather than intent, but the effect was to endanger what has been, in large part, a highly successful effort.

Although it is not clear that the increase in sidestreet traffic is primarily the result of the Reno Road program, there is a widespread perception that this is the case. In fact, as Post writer Paul Hodge pointed out in a story last month, "traffic may have been affected by other factors, including the expansion of McLean Gardens and the recent opening of Metro stations at Van Ness, Cleveland Park, and the National Zoo. On side streets such as Albermarle, Brandywine, Fessenden, McKinley, Yuma and Porter, the biggest increases in morning traffic actually have been \*\*\*\* heading in an opposite direction from downtown rush-hour traffic."

Spurred on by a well-organized and vociferous auto and commuter lobby, some residents and neighborhood commissions have directed their ire over sidestreet conditions at the Reno Road program rather than at the Department of Transportation, which could easily and cheaply deal with many of the problems through no-left turn signs, mid-block stop signs and other techniques.

The result is the neighborhood has been divided over a fundamentally false issue and a worthwhile program has been placed at risk.

If there is one solid criticism to be made of the Reno Road program it is the one made by Harry Feehan of the Chevy Chase Neighborhood Commission, namely that it doesn't go far enough.

In testimony before a Department of Transportation hearing, Feehan pointed out that even with the experiment, over eight hundred more cars per lane per hour than either Conn. or Wisconsin Avenues. Feehan argued that the experiment focused on only a fraction of the corridor traffic volume problem and that it was still carrying about one car every three seconds.

The program has produced these results, according to DOT;

- Morning rush-hour traffic down 27 percent.
- Average traffic speed down 32 percent.
- Traffic accidents and traffic noise levels down. Accidents on all three main routes dropped 9 percent with injuries down 40 percent.

At month's end, the Department of Transportation was preparing for another hearing on the issue (May 19 at Woodrow Wilson High School). Although the facts of the case are clearly on the side of continuing and expanding the Reno Road traffic control program, the politics of the situation leave the matter up for grabs. Two neighborhood commissions have endorsed the plan (Cleveland Park-Woodley Park and Chevy Chase) and two have opposed it (Friendship and North Cleveland Park). The Department of Transportation needs to hear in testimony and letters from those who believe in making Reno Road a safe and sane street. The Department of Transportation also needs to take seriously the complaints of traffic problems on sidestreets and solve them as well, instead of letting them fester, giving the erroneous impression that controlling the Reno Freeway is the cause of what's causing them.



## Dixon hits proposals. . . .

Initiative, referendum, and recall procedures now being considered by the D.C. Constitutional Convention reflect a "strong distrust of the very government this Convention is striving to establish," according to Ruth Dixon, who is past president of the D.C. League of Women Voters and is currently a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the City Council from Ward 3.

Testifying before the Constitutional Convention's Suffrage and Election Committee, Dixon, who served on the City Council's Task Force on the Board of Elections and Ethics, said the draft proposals now under review by the convention reflect a philosophy favoring direct democracy, rather than representative democracy. The convention should create a state government that is "strong enough to discharge its responsibilities," Dixon said, and initiative referendum and recall procedures should be used only "when the legislature was unresponsive."

Under the draft proposals, Dixon said, only 5,000 signatures would be needed to propose an initiative or referendum. Such a low signature requirement could effectively emasculate the legislature, Dixon said, because it would mean that almost any issue could be placed on the ballot. "The legislative process could be in perpetual hostage to less than 2% of the registered voters," she said, recommending that signature requirements for initiative, referendum, or recalls be based on a percentage of the total registered voters, not on a percentage of the turnout in any election.

A firm deadline should be established for redistricting, Dixon said, suggesting either that redistricting be accomplished during the year following the census, or at the first legislative session following the census.

## Takoma Park

*While the Post Office's decision not to permit those in nearby suburbs to use a DC zipcode has brought angst to some, it has brought us the happy discovery that we actually have a small coterie of readers in the free town of Takoma Park, Md. So, from time to time, we will bring news of that burg if we get it.*

Bob Moore and Jane Allen, both long-time residents of Takoma Park, have formed a partnership, Allen & Moore, for the practice of law in the District of Columbia and Maryland at 7334 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park.

Since moving to Takoma Park in 1968, Bob has been active in civic and community affairs. He is past president of both The Takoma Park Elementary and Middle School PTA's and is among area residents who worked hard in the Save Takoma Park Committee, Neighbors, Inc., and other community organizations during the early 1970's. In addition to his community activities, Bob is active in both the D.C. and Maryland bar associations.

Jane has been a resident of Takoma Park for almost five years. Before opening a law practice in Takoma Park, she was staff attorney for the Subcommittee on Rules with the U.S. House of Representatives. While in law school, Jane interned with Legal Aid of Northern Virginia. Prior to her legal career, she worked with emotionally troubled teenagers both at Mark Twain School in Montgomery County and Amherst High School in Massachusetts. Jane is an active member of both the Women's Bar of D.C. and MD, as well as of the local bar associations.

## REVIEW: Tenleytown, DC

TENLEYTOWN, DC: COUNTRY VILLAGE INTO CITY NEIGHBORHOOD, Judith Beck Helm, Tennally Press, P.O. Box 9438, DC \$14.95

Ever wonder why a replica of a French Norman castle tower looms near Wilson High School? Or why narrow and meandering little streets like Belt Road and Grant Road turn up unexpectedly among the orderly residential blocks of upper Northwest Washington? Judith Beck Helm's long awaited *Tenleytown, D.C.: Country Village into City Neighborhood* not only explains these apparent oddities, but also provides an impressive abundance of information about the setting of that part of our city. As the product of nearly two years of research, including hundreds of interviews with long-term residents, this latest addition to the growing body of Washington neighborhood histories represents a true labor of love by a native Tenleytowner.

Until the mid-1920s, Tenallytown (as it was more generally spelled until this century) in many respects truly was a village that was easily identifiable and clearly isolated from the larger city of Washington. Shortly after the Revolutionary War, John Tennally opened a Tavern at the intersection of two old Indian trails (today's Wisconsin Avenue and River Road) to serve travellers between the port of Georgetown and the surrounding countryside. From these beginnings until the village was eventually assimilated into the larger city by the urbanization that occurred after World War I, Tenallytown was the center for all the city's commerce north of Georgetown and east of Rock Creek.

This incredibly comprehensive book is replete with chronological and genealogical details about the key families, institutions, and events in the physical development of the Tenley area and its surrounding environs. Its thorough documentation of the early land patents and country estates prior to the Civil War, based on Priscilla McNeil's research of legal documents and deeds in both Washington and Annapolis, represents a quality of scholarship not often found in neighborhood histories. Furthermore, many readers, particularly long-time Washingtonians, will enjoy the abundance of little-known anecdotes pulled together in this book. Details abound concerning when streets were first cut through, who ran shops that have long since gone, and what places once looked like. The text is supplemented by over two hundred maps and photographs, many never before published.

The chapter on the Civil War, for instance, provides a detailed description of Tenallytown's Fort Reno: its fortifications, armaments, and regiments that served there. But it also relates a story that convincingly demonstrates the role that Fort Reno played in the city's defense against the Confederate attack on Washington in 1864:

*"One reported incident in Bethesda demonstrated the power of the 100-pounder Parrott rifle (at Ft. Reno). It seems that Confederate troops occupied*

*the Bohrer house and farm, which were located where the tower section of the Naval Hospital is now, off Rockville Pike. One shell fired from Fort Reno, three and a half miles to the south, 'burst in the field between the house and the pike.' Four Confederates were killed from the shelling, and were buried on the land."*

A later chapter reveals that the sound of artillery fire and soldiers dispelled the village tranquility again less than sixty years later. During World War I, the War Department took over the campus of a young and struggling American University and transformed the area into a training camp for thousands of soldiers. Hundreds of barracks and training facilities were built, including practice battlefields and trenches, where "mortar shells blew up plaster of Paris horses and men," providing a fascinating show for local residents.

Other numerous stories of a more gentle nature further illustrate Tenallytown's isolation from the larger city and the persistence of its village-like pace of life until the early decades of this century. Helm tells of older Tenley residents who recall sledding down River Road's steep hill or roller skating down the middle of Wisconsin Avenue to St. Alban's, without worrying about traffic! Another story explains how travelling on Belt Road between Tenallytown and Chevy Chase Circle was so difficult as late as 1922 that a new parish church, Blessed Sacrament, was established to make such commuting unnecessary.

*Tenleytown, D.C.* is not a tidy history of a Washington neighborhood. One may get lost among the many biographical and chronological references, and may find Helm's ideas about urbanization a little simplistic. It should be recognized that the modernization and envelopment of the Tenallytown village by an emerging metropolis in the automobile age had good as well as bad effects on the quality of life.

But rather than an explanation of the past, the book has greater value as a "family album" of a community, a record of stories and photographs to help us preserve and recall our collective memory. Other historians will have to interpret many of the events and incidents recorded by Helm. For example, the history of the black working class settlement near Fort Reno—a community that was established during the Civil War and developed until it was cleared to provide land for schools and parkland in the 1930s—is only one question that begs further study and explanation.

But these shortcomings do not deny that Helm has produced a valuable book. In its way, *Tenleytown, D.C.* does for that neighborhood what the more polished Junior League's *City of Washington: An Illustrated History* does for the entire city; it gives us a deeper sense of place, it urges us to look at our surroundings more closely. For these reasons, Helm's book makes worthwhile reading for new and old Washingtonians alike.

—TONY SARMIENTO

*Tony Sarmiento grew up in upper Northwest Washington and has organized several neighborhood history projects for young people. He currently works for the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute and is a member of the DC Community Humanities Council. This review is courtesy the DCCHC.*

## SPORTS NOTES

The annual Baltimore Orioles Tryout Camp will be conducted at 9 am on Sunday, June 27 at Banneker Recreation Stadium, 800 Euclid St., NW. The tryouts will be on a walk-in basis for players ages 16-22. High school players will be permitted to try out. Those presently playing in the Junior American Legion baseball program will be required to bring written permission from their coaches or post commander. Participants are asked to bring their own personal equipment.

According to Runner magazine, DC's Marine Corps Marathon is 8th most popular road race in America and second most popular marathon. Some 6500 runners entered the Marine Corps Marathon last year, topped only by the 13,000 participants in the New York Marathon.



## The Harris problem

A recent poll finds Patricia Harris leading Marion Barry in the mayor's race, with all the other contenders far behind. Harris was particularly strong with white voters, gaining 44% of the vote. To many voters, apparently, ignorance is still bliss. Not because they are stupid, but because they simply don't have enough information about Harris to know whether she would be better than Barry or not.

Harris appears to be capitalizing upon the supremacy of her image over any useful facts by running a semi-covert campaign in which she makes hit-and-run visits to friendly groups and avoids as many confrontations with the other candidates, especially Barry, as possible. She has said that she will not waste her time on community forums where the candidates get only a few minutes to express their ideas. People seriously concerned about what sort of mayor she might be will find it instructive to follow which constituencies Harris finds "useless" and which are important, because she seems rather selective in this regard.

Barry, by way of contrast, has even put his head into the jaws of lion, a.k.a. the Georgetown Citizens Association, and has been willing to argue his case on almost any issue you can raise. You may not agree with him, but he can not be accused of ducking either issues or constituencies.

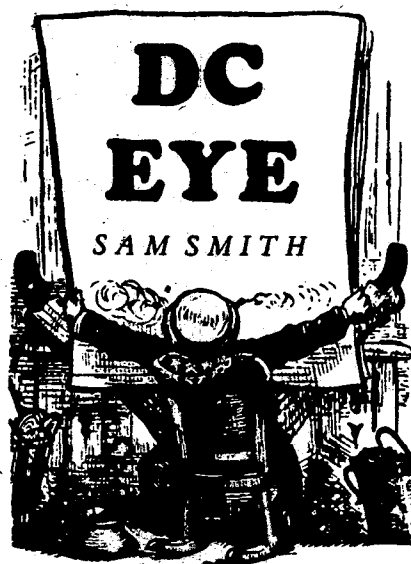
There are also several other remarkable points of contrast between Barry and Harris. Barry's record is clear for everyone to see. Many, including myself, don't like parts of it. But if Patricia Harris has a record worthy of qualifying her as the next mayor, other than an impressive collection of titles, it has not become generally known. Before you work or vote for Harris you should satisfy yourself that her achievements (rather than merely her positions) make her worthy of your support.

Also, while Barry's political program is open for everyone to see, Harris has yet to present a comprehensive alternative to the Barry program.

Unlike most of the other candidates, and despite the Gazette's direct request to her campaign office for such position papers, nothing has been received here as we go to press. Even if Barry were the devil incarnate, we need more than platitudes from anyone proposing to exorcise him.

There is, of course, the issue of management and competence. This is, to my mind, a false issue. Overall, the Barry administration has improved the management and competence of the DC government. In any case, good management is merely a tool -- not a goal. Until we get some inkling as to who Harris would manage the city government for and to what end, Harris's unsubstantiated claim of superior competence is meaningless.

Voters should be deeply concerned about this. With top developer Oliver Carr helping to run her campaign and with significant support coming from the people who so effectively disrupted the school board a few years back (and now the statehood convention) there is a serious question as to whom the Harris administration would represent.



Finally, I have heard people (especially in Ward III) say things like, "I wouldn't vote for Barry because he's so sleazy." Unfortunately, this suggests a overbearing socio-economic imprint on the campaign. It is, however, worth noting that to date the most disreputable pronouncement of the campaign, linking Barry to the death of infants not properly cared for under his infant morality reduction program, came from Patricia Harris.

I suspect people would get a firmer idea of what's really going on in this campaign, if the media and the public would insist that Harris defend her own record, present her own program and debate frequently and ubiquitously with Barry and the other candidates. It is nothing more than we expect of all other candidates. If Harris wants to be a politician, she should start acting like one.

## Just politics

- Sterling Tucker didn't make much headway trying to round up councilmanic support for a run for the city council chair. Month-end's best bet was that he might still try for an at-large seat.

- John Wilson, with his normal perverse sense of timing, withdrew from the mayor's race even as the Gazette (with its kind words about his candidacy) was being sorted at the DC bulk mailing center. In doing so, however, he demonstrated two qualities rare in political candidates: pragmatism and fiscal responsibility. Most losing candidates plunge ahead far beyond the limits of either their polls or their purses and, when they finally withdraw, leave a trail of debts that would bring the bunko squad down on an ordinary citizen. Wilson's caution and responsibility at least tends to confirm our judgement that he would have made a good mayor.

- The Gertrude Stein Democratic Club holds its city council forum on May 17 and its forum on the delegates race on June 21. Endorsements to follow. .... Meanwhile, the GSDC reports it has registered several hundred new voters

and posters have gone up in gay bars and businesses throughout the city. The club is also urging previously registered voters to play it safe by re-registering. .... Two members of the GSDC were elected to the city's 12 member delegation to the Democratic Mid-Term Conference in Philadelphia: Deacon Maccubbin and Bill Riggs.

- ADA has formed its own political action committee (called the Progressive Victory Fund) which will give financial backing to both federal and local candidates. .... ADA holds its first William O. Douglas Dinner this month with Ron Dellums being the awardee.

- The Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee has merged with the New American Movement and the new conglomerate is known as the Democratic Socialists of America. We'll miss the old acronym, D-SOCK, but by any name the socialists have done rather well by themselves politically. There are six DSA members who are delegates to the statehood convention and the organization is represented on the Democratic Central Committee. Perhaps the two most prominent DSAers locally are Hilda Mason and Joslyn Williams, who was recently elected president of the Greater Washington Labor Council.

- Since we knocked John Ray pretty hard last month for the mandatory sentencing initiative, we ought to point out that Betty Ann Kane also favors this sort of regressive approach to dealing with the crime problem.

- Those trying to hit the mayor on the quality of government issue had better take a look at the AU poll taken a few months back that found people more satisfied with government services than they were six years ago in the middle of the Washington administration. The only exception is street maintenance and repairs where the percentage expressing satisfaction dropped from 37% to 24%. Favorable responses include 89% for the fire department (up from 72% in 1976), 72% for the police department (up from 58%), 69% for garbage collection (up from 60%) and public transportation 57% (up from 53%).

## Freeze fans

Nuclear freeze advocates collected nearly 5000 signatures in the first week of their attempt to put the question on the November ballot. They need 14,600 signatures before the end of June. An activist in the effort says the signers cut across all demographic lines.

You may have thought that piece by Frank Shaffer-Corona on alternatives to closing schools, which appeared in the Post recently, sounded familiar. It was. We ran essentially the same story last December.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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§  
Just for the record, here are a few of the groups that are opposing the mandatory sentencing initiative: ACLU, Urban League, NAACP, AFGE, Catholic Archdiocese Office of Social Development, Gray Panthers, ADA, Gay Activist Alliance, Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, National Conference of Black Lawyers, and Lutheran Social Services (Community Justice Ministries).

§  
No sooner did Mary Treadwell get indicted than the Pride trashcans began disappearing all over town. Who says the Barry administration can't move on an issue?

§  
IMPORTANT TRIVIA DEPT: The Georgetown Cellar is actually owned by an outfit called Automaton Technologies Inc.

§  
HARD TIMES DEPT: The Gay Community Center is talking about closing its doors due to funding problems.

§  
DC ranks sixth among 50 major US cities for violent crime. Newark, Miami, Boston, Atlanta and St. Louis are worse. You've got about three times the opportunity to be mugged here as in Tulsa.

§  
Larry Feinberg's interesting article on the decline of DC's middle class will almost certainly lead to a new myth: namely that DC doesn't have a middle class. The speakers at the podium will

intone, "DC has become a city of the rich and the poor." Send them back to the article, please. In fact, 63% of the city's families still rank as middle class. Further, the percentage of middle income families declined in the suburbs as well, although not as much as in DC.

§

Just as the police were busy finding residue of pot in the urine of its recruits, a police van pulled up to a certain Connecticut Avenue grocery store and a somewhat furtive looking cop loaded two cases of booze into the vehicle. Inside, the cop was heard to say, "You don't get married every day."

## THE REGION

The number of air passengers using Dulles International would double if those who prefer to fly out of that airport were not compelled to use National. Similarly, the number of air passengers at Baltimore/Washington International Airport would increase by nearly 25 percent.

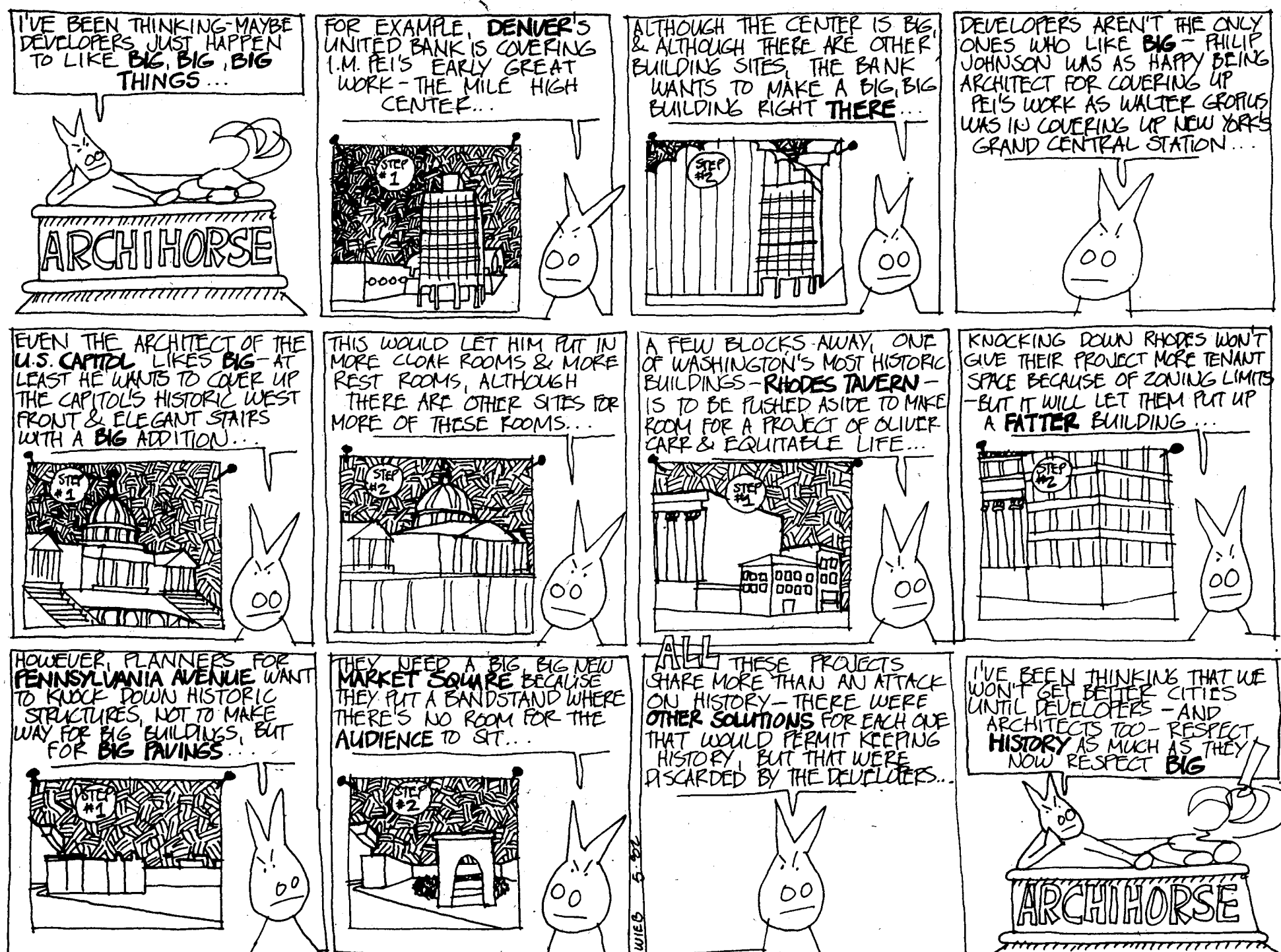
This is one of several preliminary findings from the first segment of a survey by the Council of Governments and the Maryland Department of Transportation in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Aviation, the Federal Aviation Administration and the airlines serving the region's airports.

The survey also found that half of the region's air travelers prefer National, one out of five prefers Dulles and a similar number prefers BWI. While only 50 percent preferred flying from National, almost 70 percent were compelled to use it for some reason.

While the most important reason people cited for using National Airport was its convenient location, one out

of three passengers, at that airport, reported the availability of direct flights and more convenient flight times as their primary reason for using it.

A new economic analysis from the Council of Governments furnishes more evidence for the growing belief that the Washington area is not as "recession-proof" as before. COG's economists report that the number of unemployed residents grew almost twice as fast here as nationally in the last quarter of 1981. The report says the region's inflation rate was equal (9 percent) to the national rate, for the first time in three years. An analysis of the 1973-1975 national recession showed that contrary to popular belief, the Washington area was affected by a severe national economic downturn. Subsequent data demonstrating the declining federal role in the Washington economy suggests that the area "has become less resilient," COG



says. Moreover, cuts in federal employment and federal spending have eroded the most stable portion of the economy. "Economic Alert!" is available for \$5.00 a copy from COG's Metropolitan Information Center, 223-6800, ext. 230.

\* \* \*

A new display on the area's air and water problems and programs to alleviate them is now available through COG. The display is three panels,

self-standing, illustrating the subjects and providing free take-home literature. It's suitable for standing in shopping centers, government buildings, banks, post offices and similar areas. Call 223-6800, ext. 206.

\* \* \*

Maryland, Virginia and DC have agreed in principle to a new water resource sharing pact.

The Low Flow Allocation Agreement is an amendment to a compact signed in 1978. The original agreement provided for water-sharing

during periods when the flow of water supplies is less than half of what is drawn. This condition occurs about once in a decade.

The amendment provides for a much expanded year-round sharing and storing program which could significantly reduce the possibility that the jurisdictions would have to restrict water use during shortage periods. The amendment also would give each jurisdiction access to alternative water sources during possible pollution emergencies.

## THE DC BOOKSHELF

**DC MAGAZINES: A LITERARY RETROSPECTIVE.** This work contains an anthology of pieces from three of Washington's most important literary magazines, Portfolio, Voyages and Dryad. Editor Richard Peabody has also included a listing of literary magazines published here from the 18th century on and a list of alternative newspapers and arts magazines published since the sixties. \$7.95.



### CITIFAX: Facts & figures about DC

**CITIFAX:** In invaluable collection of facts and figures about DC that you'll find nowhere else. Plus a listing of citywide and ward groups. Topics covered in maps and charts include poverty, industrial land use, per capita income, gross income by wards, office rental rates, school test scores 1975-1980, school enrollment, teachers salaries, comparison of school budget with suburban jurisdictions, private school enrollment by wards, tax revenue by source 1970-1980, tax revenues lost due to the federal presence, changes in the recreation budget, wards and neighborhood commissions, DC neighborhoods, city council committees, comparison of business taxes with other cities, land use in DC by type, recreation and leisure activity sites by ward, average house assessments by neighborhoods, comparison of housing sales prices with other metro areas, results of initiatives and referenda, presidential votes, ward results 1980, 1980 election results, population figures, Metro ridership by month, change in ridership to downtown, prior mode of Metro riders, causes of death. All this for only \$2.00

**YESTERDAY'S WASHINGTON:** A photographic history of our city that all lovers of DC will want to have. 20% off at \$7.95.

**THIRTY-TWO PICTURE POST CARDS OF OLD WASHINGTON, DC.** Ready to mail. Rare photos reproduced as post cards in sepia. A different way to stay in touch. \$2.75.

**CAPTIVE CAPITAL:** Sam Smith tells the story of non-federal Washington. "Not only well worth reading, but it is the best book we are likely to read on Washington," Bryce Nelson of the LA Times. "An excellent gift," Bill Raspberry in the Washington Post. "Must Reading," Afro-American. "A joy to read," Robert Cassidy in the Chicago Tribune.

**NOTICE:** The Gazette has secured the rights to "Captive Capital" and can now offer it to its readers 40% off the list price of \$10. For Gazette readers: \$6!

**BOSS SHEPHERD AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.** The fascinating tale of DC's only true political boss and perhaps the most controversial figure in local history. \$3.

**PUBLIC BANKING: A MODEL FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.** A monograph on how to alter the city's banking system by William Batko of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. \$1.

**OLD WASHINGTON, DC, IN EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS: 1846-1932.** This is a truly fine collection of over 200 prints that provide an enduring record of this city. \$7.95.

**SECRET CITY:** Constance Green's history of black Washington. A highly readable trip through the city's black past. \$7.95

**JOHN WIEBENSON'S MAP OF WASHINGTON:** Done in Wieb's wry and pointed style, this map was drawn for the Bicentennial and is now available for 40% off at \$1.50.

**WASHINGTON:** Constance Green's Pulitzer Prize-winning comprehensive history of Washington is now available in paperback for only \$9.50. The basic book of DC history.

**A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR WASHINGTON STUDIES AND DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR LOCAL COLLECTIONS:** This is a revised and enlarged edition of an outstanding bibliography of Washington materials that has been out of print for several years. It has been compiled and annotated by Perry G. Fisher of the Columbia Historical Society and Linda J. Lear of George Washington University. There are nearly 350 entries in the new edition, as well as updated descriptions of the major local collections of Washingtoniana. \$6.

**ALLEY LIFE IN WASHINGTON: Family, Community, Religion and Folklife in the City, 1850-1970.** By James Borchert. Borchert challenges conventional wisdom that the impact of the city led to the breakdown of migrants' social institutions. Borchert shows how Washington's alley dwellers adapted patterns that permitted continuity and survival in an often harsh environment. The male-headed nuclear family composed the fundamental unit in this urban subculture, but extended families, kinship networks, alley communities, and folk and religious traditions continued to provide coherence and to help alley dwellers cope with the rigors of everyday life. Forgoing outside assistance, these self-reliant people adjusted to their limited incomes and tiny quarters by using folk cures, remedies, and food sources, as well as by devising ingenious furniture. These crowded but isolated and homogeneous populations were able to shape close-knit communities, with social hierarchies which administered aid and comfort to the needy, but which also punished transgressors. This book is being sold by the Gazette at 20% off list price. \$14.80.

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**FREE  
PARKING**

A workshop called "How to Develop Children's Thinking in the Classroom" will be offered at Catholic University on Sept. 10, 11, 24, 25 and Oct. 1, 2 and 3.

Early registration is recommended as space is limited. Participants can earn three graduate credits or take the workshop on a non-credit basis.

The workshop, based on the theories of educational theorist Jean Piaget, is designed to help participants understand the thinking development of preschool and primary school age children. Also emphasized will be instruction on how to prepare an educational curriculum that encourages thinking development.

To register or obtain more information, call the University College at 635-5256.

\* \* \*

Planned Parenthood has published a calendar of educational programs which is now available by calling the organization's resource center at 347-8500. Included are programs for health professionals on sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy testing; workshops on women's health concerns; natural family planning and a conference on childbearing after thirty.

\* \* \*

A Summer Institute in Gerontology will be offered at Catholic University for clergy, religious

and lay leaders developing programs for the elderly.

The institute, sponsored by the university's Center for the Study of Pre-retirement and Aging, is designed for people in careers serving the elderly and for people undertaking second careers or doing volunteer work in the field. Information: 635-5483.

\* \* \*

The D.C. League of Women Voters has published *Facts for Citizens*, a small brochure designed to provide citizens with a handy list of addresses and phone numbers of major D.C. government officials and services. *Facts for Citizens* also offers voter information with detailed instructions on registration and voting procedures, as well as a schedule of elections to be held in the District through 1984.

The booklet is available from the League office, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Room 718. Price per copy is 25 cents, plus postage for mailing. Bulk mailing rates for schools, citizen organizations and other groups may be obtained by calling the League office at 785-2616.

\* \* \*

Mount Vernon College is offering two exciting programs for teens this summer. *Mini-Courses for Curious Teens*: These substantive mini-courses are open to all curious teens who want to sample a subject interest area they haven't had time for or that is not part of their school curriculum. Classes in science, journalism, neighborhood and architectural history, conversational French and Spanish, speaking, and typing will meet daily in two, 2-week sessions: July 6-16; and July 19-30. Info: 331-3418.

*Leadership Conference for High School Girls:*

Girls entering grades 10-12 who hold high school, church, or community office, or who have leadership potential are eligible for this program. Through workshops, panel discussions, films, group projects, and recreational activities participants will learn how to motivate others, how to delegate authority, and how to communicate clearly and positively. In addition, there will be two special events: a visit to a television studio for the taping of a talk show; and each girl will spend a day with a Washington woman in a position of leadership or management. This resident program, June 27-July 2, will give students a preview of what living in a college atmosphere is like. Info: 331-3418.

\* \* \*

#### CONSUMER VOLUNTEERS

The D.C. Office of Consumer Protection is seeking volunteers to carry out a variety of functions.

The volunteers are being sought to expand the Office's citizen outreach program, to provide consumer education and to carry out some office tasks.

Volunteers are needed who can edit consumer information, give presentations to the public, develop other consumer education programs, conduct surveys and coordinate workshops. Volunteers also are needed to do filing and other clerical work.

Persons who are willing to volunteer are asked to call 727-1294 or to visit the Office of Consumer Protection, 1424 K Street, N.W., the second floor, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on weekdays.

For further information, contact: Ana Aldama or Gloria Pailen, 727-1294.

\* \* \*



## Roses & Thorns

ROSES TO MITCH SNYDER and THE COMMUNITY FOR CREATIVE NON-VIOLENCE for getting the federal government to drop the idea of calling one of its Navy attack submarines the Corpus Christi. After Snyder engaged in a 63-day fast, President Reagan agreed to change the name to the City of Corpus Christi, which, said Snyder, would secularize the name.

THORNS TO ROBERT ANDRETTA OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. Serving as hearing officer in the Reno Road case, Andretta told a crowd at Wilson High School, which occasionally applauded and laughed, that if they were not quiet, "I will exclude them." During a break, we asked Andretta what his authority was for excluding anyone from a public hearing and he pointed to a bizarre section of the Department of Transportation regulations (§1030.1) which reads, "Hearings shall be open to the parties and to such other persons as the examiner deems necessary or proper." Said Andretta, "If people become too raucous they become unnecessary." Andretta should be called on the carpet for his imperious approach to a public hearing and the whole section in DOT regs should be thrown out, especially since it is in clear violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the city's sunshine law.

THORNS TO THE KENNEDY CENTER for charging people \$23 an orchestra seat to see "West Side Waltz" and then jamming them into the Opera House where it was almost impossible to hear many of the lines. Why is it that people go after auto repair shops but never after cultural rip-offs? Until that question is answered, we advise you not to go to any play in the Opera House that is not fully miked.

ROSES TO METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON PLANNING AND HOUSING ASSOCIATION for winning a favorable settlement in a case that involved alleged discrimination against children in the rental of housing. The case was filed against the Dreyfuss Brothers and was the first since the city passed a law two years ago prohibiting such discrimination.

## Supporting Subscriptions

In some European countries, small circulation political and alternative journals keep going with the aid of supporting subscribers who contribute a sum in addition to the normal subscription fee to aid the publication in its work. You will note on your renewal form that there is such a category. We hope you will indicate your support of our efforts by subscribing at the supporting rate of \$15 a year rather than the normal \$5. This will allow us not only to continue as an advocacy journal, but to carry on various activities which, while desirable, are not particularly cost-effective e.g. reaching public officials and groups that might not otherwise subscribe, subsidizing subscriptions for prisoners and low-income persons, and serving as a resource for groups and individuals seeking social change. We hope you will become a supporting subscriber when you renew, which, incidentally, you can do right now by sending us \$15 and a sample of your mailing label. Mail to DC Gazette, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009. Thank you.

# 15 YEARS AGO

## in the pages of the Gazette

### The 1985 Plan

How will Capitol East look in 1985?

The National Capital Planning Commission has issued a blueprint for the area as part of its proposed comprehensive long-range plan for the city. The plan was released last month.

If the blueprint were to be followed, it would mean:

--There would be double the present park and playground space.

--There would be fewer and larger elementary schools based on an expected 10% increase in school population. Sixteen existing elementary schools would be eliminated. Eight existing schools would be expanded and six new ones would be built. Stuart Jr. High would be replaced. Phelps and Chamberlain Vocational Schools would be eliminated. There would be "a new intown campus center to unify the existing Watkins Elementary School and the new junior high school proposed for the vicinity of 15th & Pa. SE."

--Major housing renewal action would be delayed until 1973 in the main portion of Capitol East. According to the report, "proposed industrial reuse of the area immediately east of Union Station would remove generally substandard housing west of 4th St. and north of K St. NE." Total new housing construction in Capitol East could amount to an estimated 8500 units while removals might run as high as 7000.

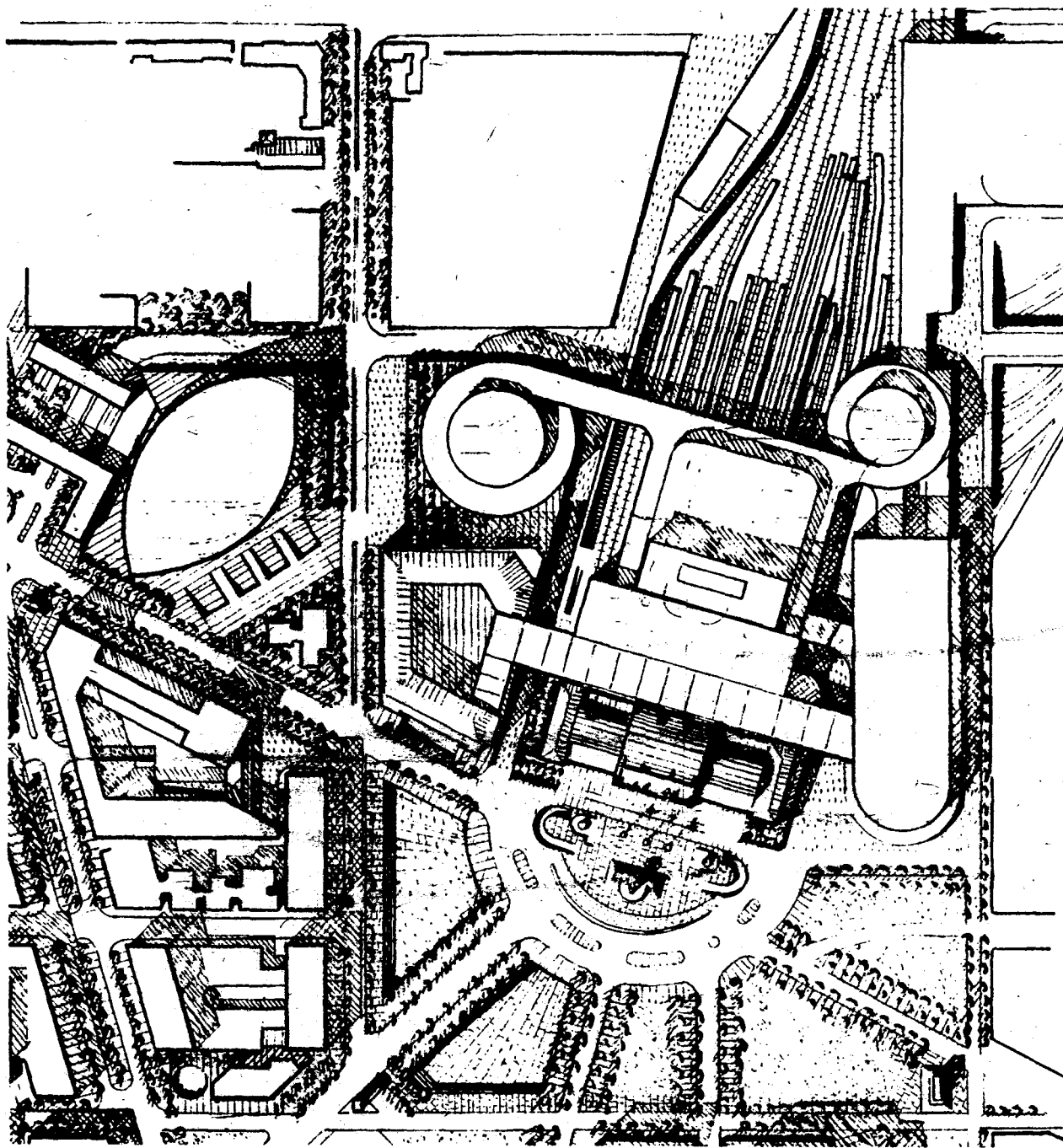
--The predominantly residential character of the community would be retained.

--There would be scattered site public housing throughout the area, rather than the present emphasis on massive, compressed housing projects.

--The Anacostia waterfront would be developed as the city's major recreational area. According to the report, "Most of the upper portion of this area, (The Aquatic Gardens, the Bird Sanctuary, and the National Arboretum) should be protected in its natural state. The rest of the eastern riverfront area should be the principal sector for the development of centers for concentrated recreational activities; while the western shore, with DC Stadium as the principal exception, should be developed predominantly for pursuits attracting smaller numbers of persons, such as boating and golf. The park might also be the site of a new stadium to accommodate high school and industrial league sports competition."

School board member John Sessions, Fifth Police Precinct Captain John Kinney, and civil rights leader Marion Barry, are among those who have agreed to participate in the Assembly for a Better Community, a nearly all-day conference on area problems to be held April 29.

### Union Station in 1985 (sic)



The 1985 plan states: "A terminal-visitor center complex should be compactly developed as an expansion of Union Station. The main station building would be retained, both as an architectural landmark and in anticipation of fuller use as better East Coast rail service is introduced. The role of the station would be expanded by the construction of an interstate bus terminal on the air rights above the railroad tracks, and by the new rapid transit station, which should be centrally located to serve both bus and rail passengers. Eventually a heliport might be established in this area. Escalators, moving sidewalks, and all-weather pedestrian concourses would connect the various modes of transportation with the visitor center, the convention hall, and other facilities. A convention hall seating 10,000-15,000 is proposed for a distinctive site between N. Capitol St. and Mass."

The Circle-on-the-Hill, an organization of 150 Capitol East women connected with Friendship House, has urged Mrs. Lyndon Johnson to help convert three District-owned buildings in this area to recreational use. In a letter to Mrs. Johnson commenting on the Halprin Plan for improving Capitol East, Circle president Deborah Frum drew attention to the Carberry School, 5th & D NE (shown in the photo at right) which, she said, "now stands idle in the midst of a densely populated area with many children and teenagers who have few recreational facilities. The building is used for storage by the Dept. of Education. The sizeable playground area on both sides of the school is used for parking while teenagers attempt to play basketball on the side of an adjacent corner store. This building of several floors plus basement could be used for year-round recreation..."

Mrs. Frum also suggested use of the old abandoned French School, 7th & G SE, as a "perfect site" for a cultural center for all ages; and the use of the Dent School, 2nd & SC SE, as a clubhouse.

